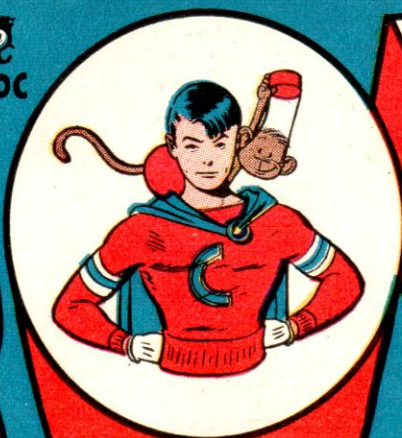


BOY

52 PAGES - A FULL SIZE MAG!

ID
PDC



MARCH
NO. 51

AUTHORIZED
A. C. M. P.

CONFORMS
to the
COMICS
CODE

ILLUSTORIES

10¢

IN THIS AND
EVERY ISSUE
3 FEATURE-
LENGTH
C.B. ILLUSTRIES

LEV GLEASON, PUBLISHER - CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

COME CLOSER,
C.B., WITH YOUR
MOTOR ROARING! MAYBE
IT'LL SCARE 'EM OFF!
I'M GETTING TIRED! I
'CAN'T KEEP OUT OF
THEIR REACH MUCH
LONGER!

KEEP 'EM
HUNGRY FOR A
WHILE LONGER, CRAIG!
I'LL COME AROUND
AGAIN! BUT THIS TIME,
I'LL SHAVE THEIR
WHISKERS!

LEV GLEASON
PUBLICATIONS

CHARLES
BIRO

IN THIS
ISSUE:

"C.B. AND THE DEAF ONE!"
HOW INFERIOR CAN A COMPLEX GET? YOU'LL SEE A MAN RISE
FROM THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR WITH THE HELP OF SOME
HOMESPUN C.B. PSYCHOLOGY AND PLENTY OF ACTION. WHAT
WAS THE CURE FOR THIS MAN'S HOPELESS DESPAIR?

"THE MAN WHO MADE
WORDS KILL!"
THE WORDS A VILLAIN UTTERS
CAN BE AS DEADLY AS THE LEAD
IN A PISTOL

"C.B. AND THE
JEALOUS PARTNER!"
MORE THAN CLASHING PERSONALITIES SUP-
PLY A ROCKETING SERIES OF EVENTS THAT
MAKE THIS STORY A HAIR STANDER-UPPER.



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BOYS - GIRLS

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Coupon
Today

OUR
55th
YEAR



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FIRST

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1000 Shot Daisy Air Rifles (with Tube of Shot) 22 Cal. Rifles, Footballs, Baseballs (sent postage paid). Many other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** beautiful art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with your order postage paid by us to start. Be first. Wilson Chemical Co., Dept. C-53, Tyrone, Pa.

Premiums or Cash Given



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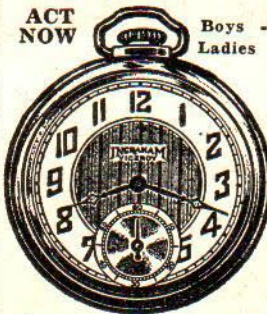
MAIL COUPON

Boys-Girls — Lovable fully dressed Dolls over 15" in height, Radios, Flashlights, Electric Record Players, Watches, (sent postage paid). **SIMPLY GIVE** pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE for chaps, and mild burns and easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with starting order postage paid by us. Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. D-53, Tyrone, Pa.

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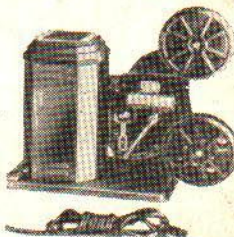
Boys - Girls
Ladies - Men



Our
55th
Year

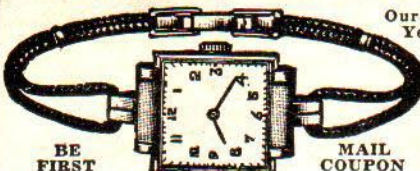
Be
First

ACT
NOW



Pocket Watches, Movie Projectors with reel of film (sent postage paid). Many other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with your order postage paid by us to start. We are reliable. Our 55th year. Act now. WILSON CHEM. CO., Dept. E-53, TYRONE, PA.

Premiums - GIVEN - Cash



Our 55th
Year

BE
FIRST

MAIL
COUPON

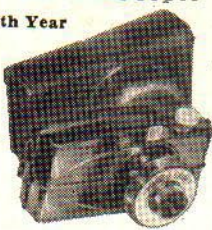
Wrist Watches, Pocket Watches, Footballs (sent postage paid). Other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **GIVE** pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with starting order. WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Dept. F-53, TYRONE, PA.

GIVEN - GIVEN

PREMIUMS or CASH COMMISSION

Our 55th Year

ACT
NOW



Complete School Boxes, Candid Cameras with Carrying Cases (sent postage paid). Other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **SIMPLY GIVE** beautiful

pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with your order, postage paid by us to start. Our 55th year. We are reliable. Act now! WILSON CHEM. CO., Dept. G-53, TYRONE, PA.

MAIL COUPON TODAY

Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. CH-53, Tyrone, Pa. Date _____
Gentlemen:—Please send me on trial 12 colorful art pictures with 12 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 25c a box (with picture). I will remit amount within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as fully explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with my order postage paid to start.

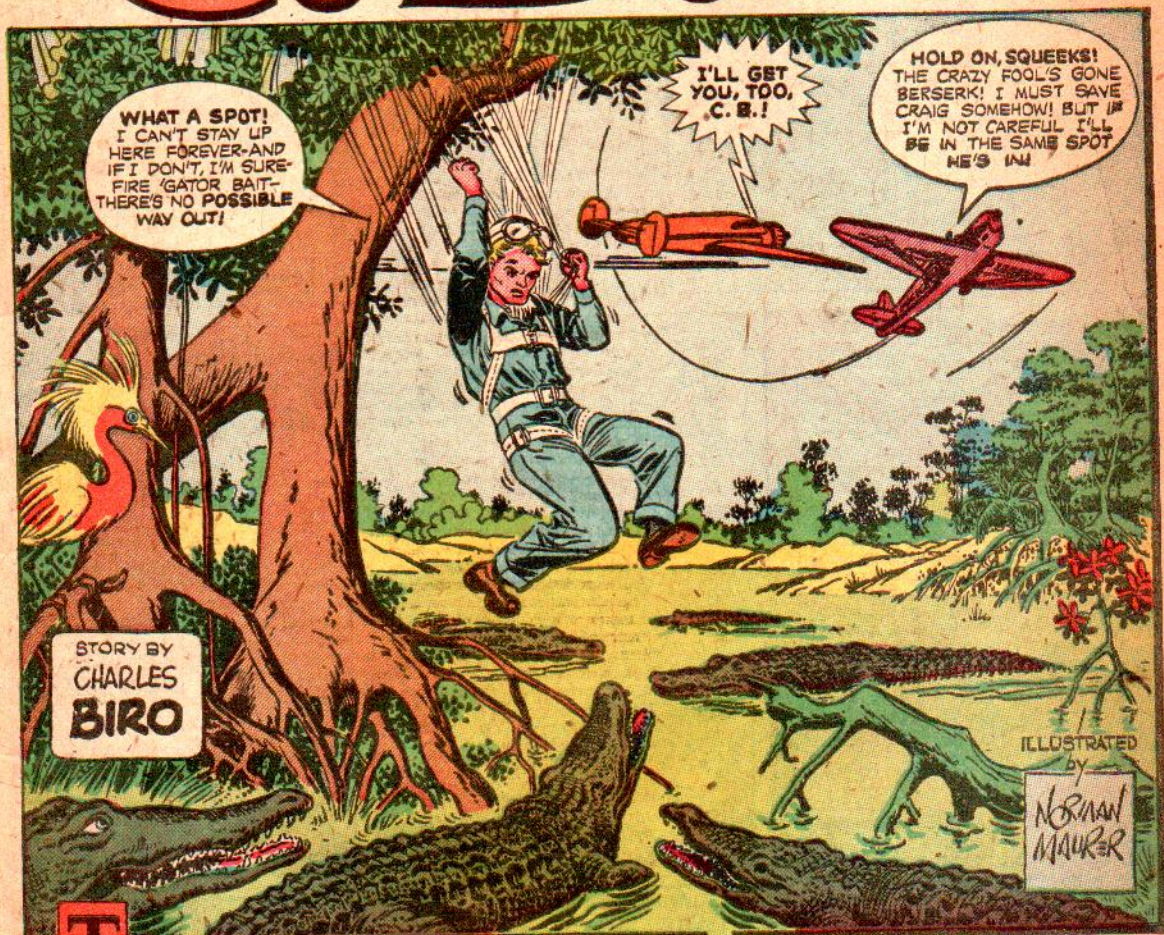
NAME _____ AGE _____
ST _____ R.D. _____ BOX _____
TOWN _____ ZONE _____
NO. _____ STATE _____
Print LAST _____
Name Here _____

Paste on a postal card or mail in an envelope NOW

BOY ILLUSTRATIONS is published monthly by LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC., 114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, N. Y. Hannah Schreiber, Business Manager, E. A. Piller, Advertising Director. Editorial, business and advertising offices at 114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, N. Y., U.S.A. Reentered as second class matter October 8, 1949 in the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Single copies 10c; yearly subscription in U.S. \$1.20. No actual person is named or delineated in this magazine. Copyright, 1949, by LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC. Printed in U.S.A. March 1950. Vol. 1, No. 51. The Publisher is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts. Manuscripts accompanied by self-addressed, stamped envelopes will be returned.

C.B.

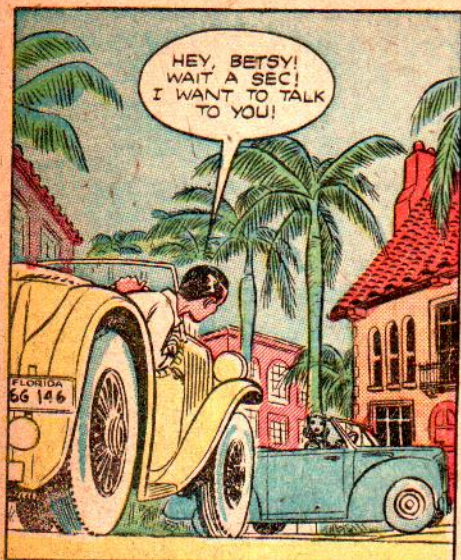
AND THE JEALOUS PARTNER!



THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE MAKE LIFE MORE COMFORTABLE, BUT THE WONDERS OF NATURE MAKE LIFE POSSIBLE! THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO COMPLETELY FORSAKE HEAVENLY POWER, PREFERING ITS WEAK IMITATOR, SCIENCE! JUST ASK THE GREATEST SCIENTISTS OF OUR TIME! LIFE ON THIS EARTH IS SO WONDROUS! ALL ETERNITY WILL NEVER REVEAL ITS COUNTLESS FORMULAS! LIKE THE CYCLE OF THE RAIN-IT FALLS, CONDENSES AND RISES, ONLY TO FALL AGAIN! AND ONE OF THE GREATEST OF LIFE'S PHENOMENAS IS THAT GOOD ALWAYS CONQUERS EVIL, THAT SQUARE-SHOOTERS ALWAYS WIN WHILE BAD GUYS ALWAYS LOSE! NO HEP-THINKING GUY REALLY NEEDS THE LESSON OF THIS STORY, WHICH PROVES MY POINT AND CRIMEBUSTER'S, TOO!

Charles Biro





HEY, BETSY!
WAIT A SEC!
I WANT TO TALK
TO YOU!



I WANT
YOU TO GO TO
THE SCHOOL PROM
WITH ME THIS
SATURDAY!
HOW ABOUT
IT?

OH, LOU, I'M
SORRY, BUT I
HAVE A
TENTATIVE DATE
WITH CRAIG FOR
THAT NIGHT! BUT
I'LL SEE YOU
THERE IF I GO
WITH CRAIG!



WHAT'S ALL
THIS "TENTATIVE"
"IF" STUFF?
EITHER YOU'RE
GOING WITH
CRAIG OR YOU
AREN'T! AND
IF YOU AREN'T,
THEN LET ME
TAKE YOU!

I THINK
I'M GOING
WITH CRAIG!
WHY NOT ASK
ME AGAIN
TOMORROW?
THEN, JUST
IN CASE MY
PLANS WITH
CRAIG CHANGE,
I'LL GO WITH
YOU! NOW I
HAVE TO RUSH!
GOODBYE,
LOU!



CRAIG-CRAIG-CRAIG!
THE WAY BETSY
CARRIES A TORCH FOR
THAT GUY! IT GIVES
ME A PAIN!



I WONDER WHO'S
GOING TO WIN THE
KENSINGTON AIRPLANE
CORPORATION PRIZE?
BOY! IMAGINE WINNING
THE LATEST MODEL
FOUR-SEATER PLANE!

I'LL BET
YOU WIN IT,
CRAIG! THAT
ADVANCED
SUPERPERSONIC
TYPE DESIGN
YOU DREAMED
UP IS TERRIFIC!



I WISH I
FELT AS SURE
AS YOU DO! BUT
THIS IS A
NATIONAL CONTEST.
REMEMBER-AND THE
COMPETITION IS
TERRIFIC!

I STILL
SAY YOU'RE
WAY
UP ON
TOP!



HI! WHAT'S
ALL THE
CHATTER? ANY
NEWS ON THE
KENSINGTON
COMPETITION
YET?

WHY SHOULD
YOU CARE? YOU
HAVEN'T A CHANCE!
THAT THING YOU
DESIGNED WOULDN'T
EVEN RATE A
BOOBY PRIZE!

HELLO,
LOU!



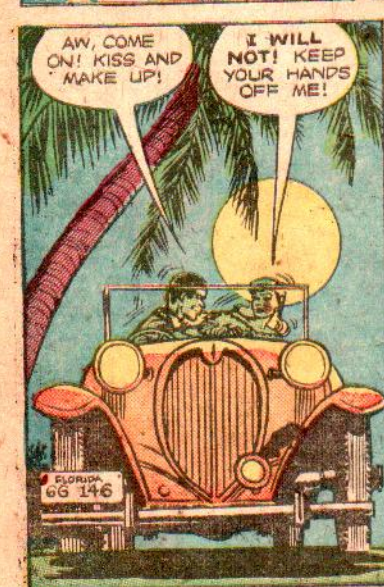
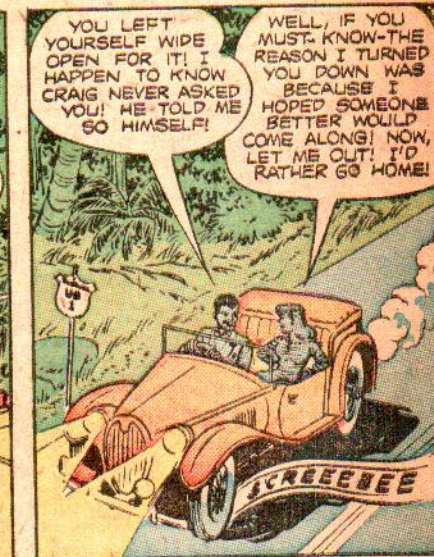
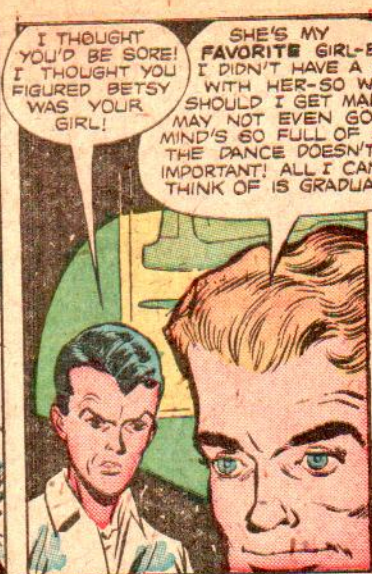
LOU'S "FLYING
ELEPHANT", THE
SAFEST PLANE
IN THE WORLD,
BECAUSE IT CAN'T
TAKE OFF THE
GROUND! HA!
HA! HA!

WHY,
YOU- I'LL
TEACH YOU TO
WISECRACK!



HEY! BREAK IT
UP! TAKE IT EASY,
LOU! JOE WAS ONLY
KIDDING! LET'S NOT
HAVE ANY BAD FEELINGS
SO CLOSE TO
GRADUATION!

OKAY! ONLY
KEEP HIM
OUT OF MY
WAY....





WELL, ALL RIGHT-BUT YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF FROM NOW ON!



OH, LOOK! JOE BENTLEY IS GOING TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT!



YOUR ATTENTION, EVERYONE! LET'S GIVE THREE CHEERS FOR CRAIG WILLIAMS, THE MOST OUTSTANDING STUDENT IN THE GRADUATING CLASS!



YEA! CRAIG!

YEA! CRAIG!

YEA! CRAIG!



COME ON UP HERE, CRAIG! ON BEHALF OF THE CLASS I WANT TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS TOKEN OF OUR ESTEEM! A CUP WITH THE NAMES OF ALL YOUR CLASSMATES ENGRAVED ON IT!

HE'S NOT HERE TONIGHT!



LOU'S HERE! HE'S A GOOP FRIEND OF CRAIG'S! WHY NOT GIVE IT TO HIM TO GIVE TO CRAIG!

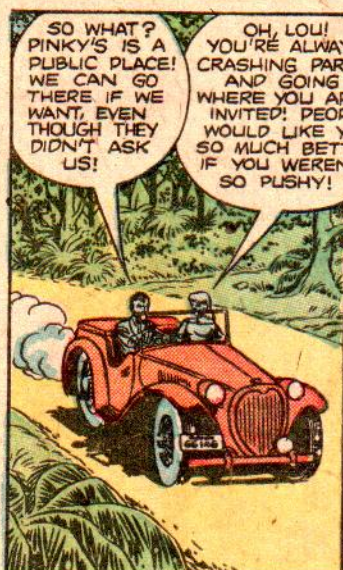
GOOD IDEA! IS THAT OKAY WITH YOU, LOU?

SURE!



SOME OF THE GANG ARE GOING OVER TO PINKY'S GREASY VEST! WHAT DO YOU SAY WE TAG ALONG?

BUT THEY DIDN'T ASK US!



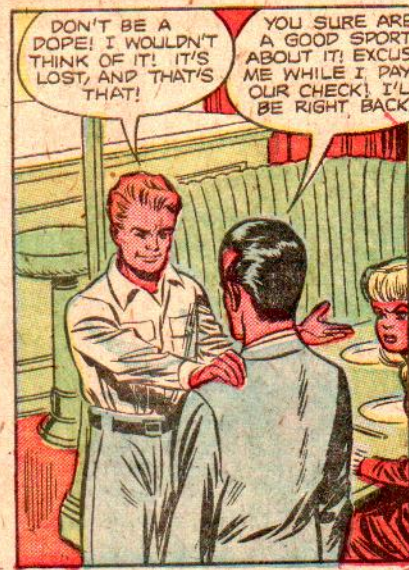
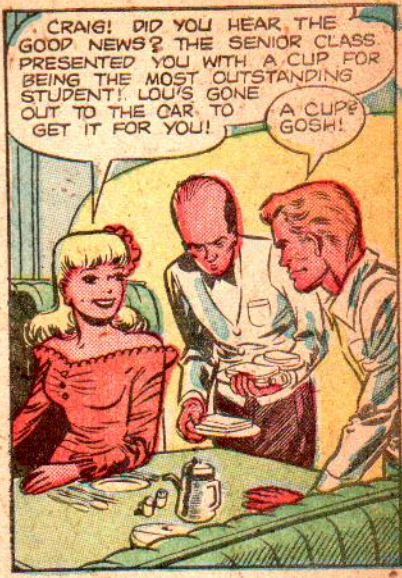
SO WHAT? PINKY'S IS A PUBLIC PLACE! WE CAN GO THERE IF WE WANT, EVEN THOUGH THEY DIDN'T ASK US!

OH, LOU! YOU'RE ALWAYS CRASHING PARTIES AND GOING WHERE YOU AREN'T INVITED! PEOPLE WOULD LIKE YOU SO MUCH BETTER IF YOU WEREN'T SO PUSHY!



OH, LOOK! THERE'S CRAIG! LET'S GO EAT WITH HIM!

NO! YOU'RE MY DATE TONIGHT, AND YOU'RE GOING TO SIT WHERE I WANT-IN THIS BOOTH!





UH-UH! NO ONE-ARM DRIVING!

I'LL BET YOU WOULDN'T SAY THAT TO CRAIG!



HOW ABOUT A GOODNIGHT KISS, HONEY?

NO, THANKS! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU TO LAST ME FOR LIFE! WHEN I THINK HOW YOU MASQUERADE AS A FRIEND OF CRAIG'S...



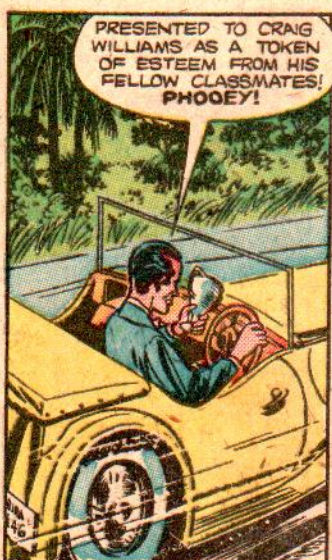
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YOU KNOW! I CAN'T PROVE IT, BUT ONE THING IS CERTAIN—THAT CLIP DIDN'T LOSE ITSELF, AND NO ONE WOULD STEAL AN ENGRAVED CLIP! THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER!



YOU'RE SO JEALOUS OF CRAIG THAT YOU CAN'T SEE STRAIGHT! AND YOU'LL NEVER BE LIKE HIM IN A MILLION YEARS! GOOD NIGHT! AND DON'T ASK TO DATE ME AGAIN!

WHY, YOU...

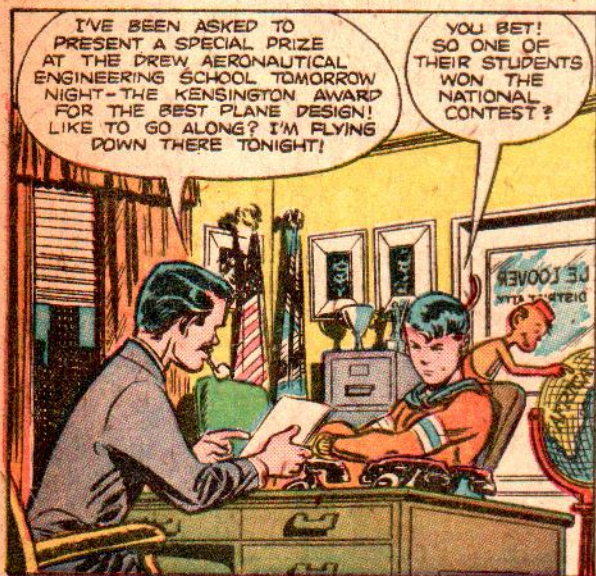


PRESENTED TO CRAIG WILLIAMS AS A TOKEN OF ESTEEM FROM HIS FELLOW CLASSMATES! PHOOEY!



THERE! TRY TO FIND THAT PRECIOUS CUP OF YOURS NOW, CRAIG!

SPLASH

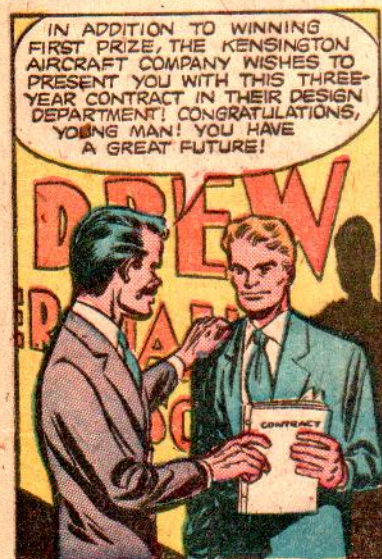
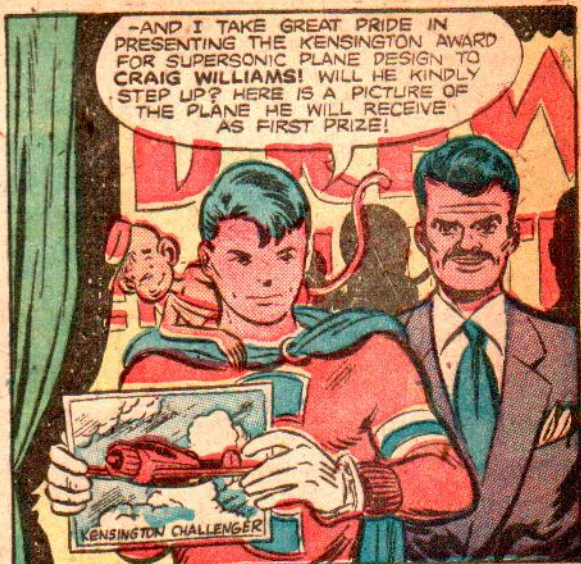


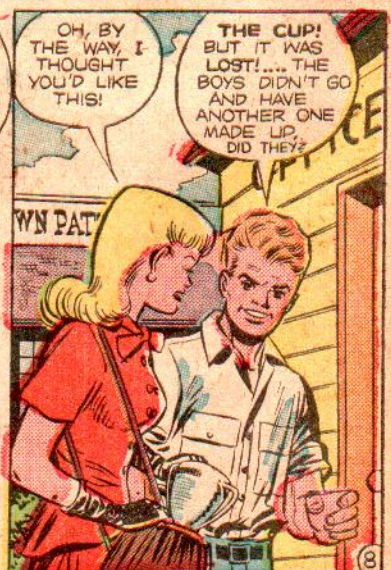
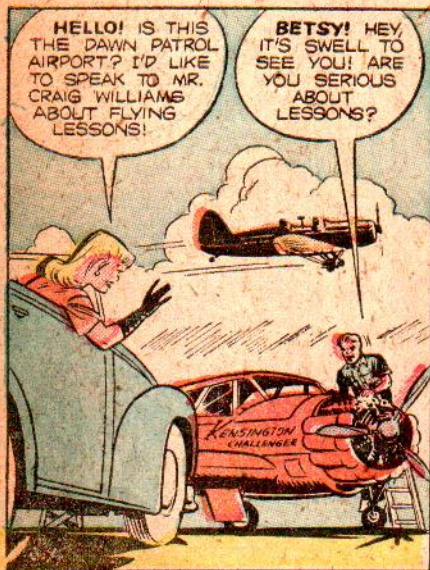
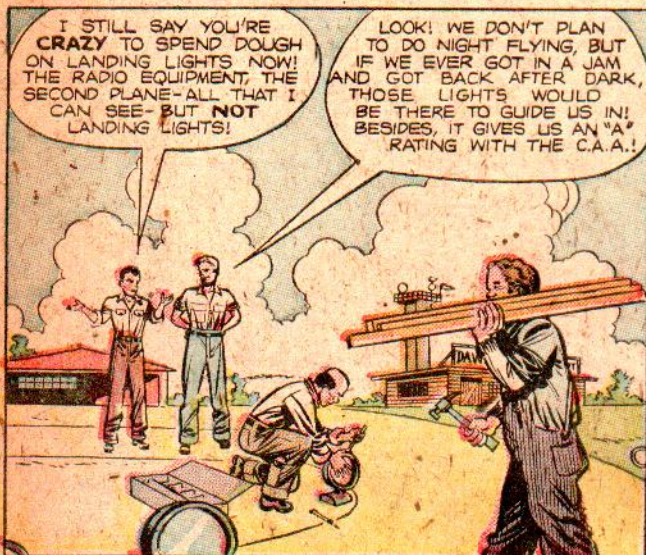
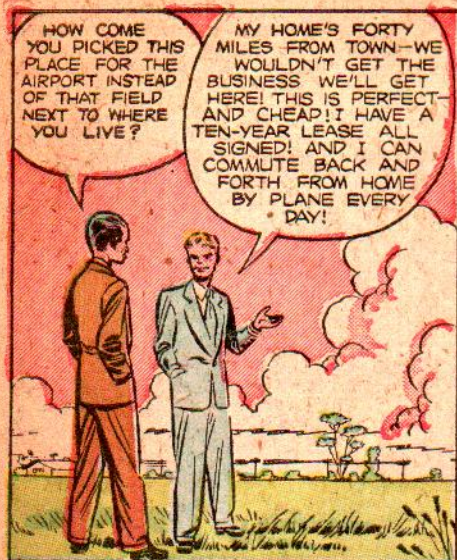
I'VE BEEN ASKED TO PRESENT A SPECIAL PRIZE AT THE DREW AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING SCHOOL TOMORROW NIGHT—THE KENSINGTON AWARD FOR THE BEST PLANE DESIGN! LIKE TO GO ALONG? I'M FLYING DOWN THERE TONIGHT!

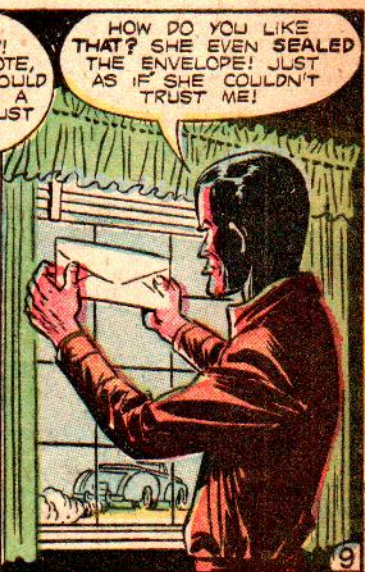
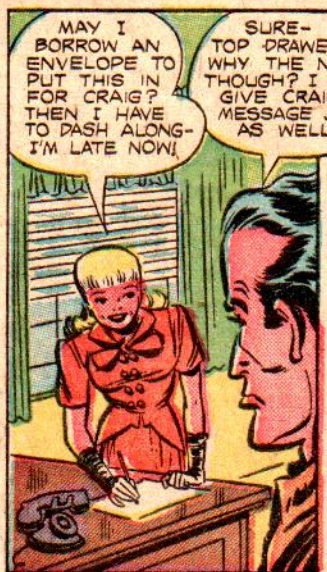
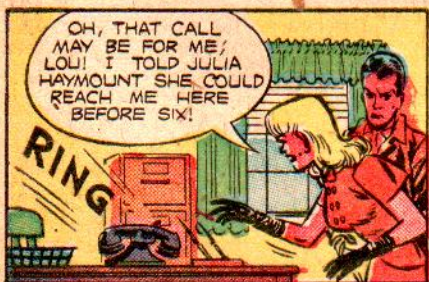
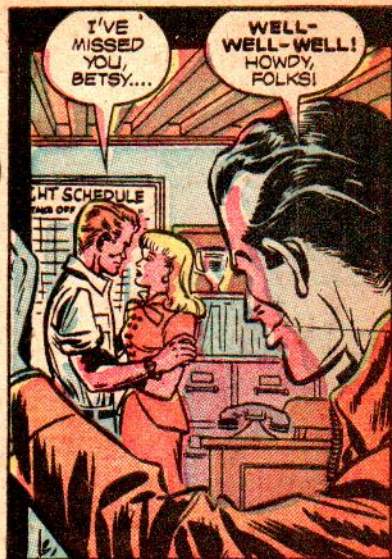
YOU BET! SO ONE OF THEIR STUDENTS WON THE NATIONAL CONTEST?

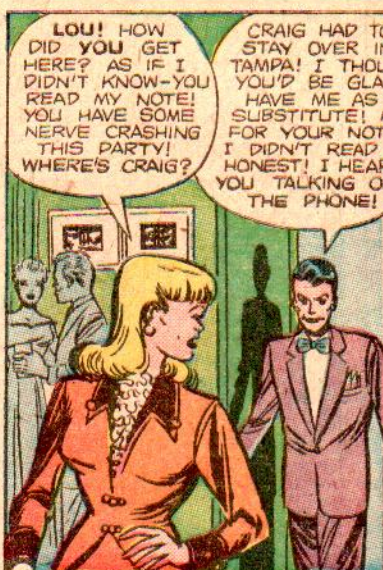
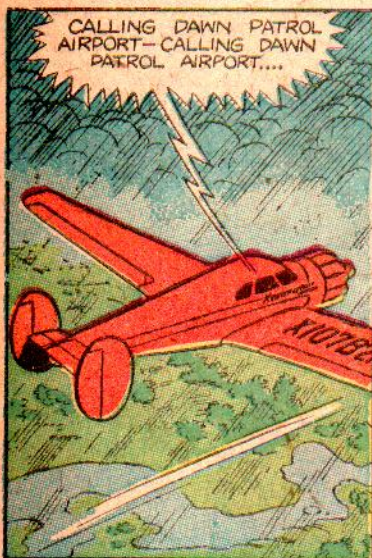
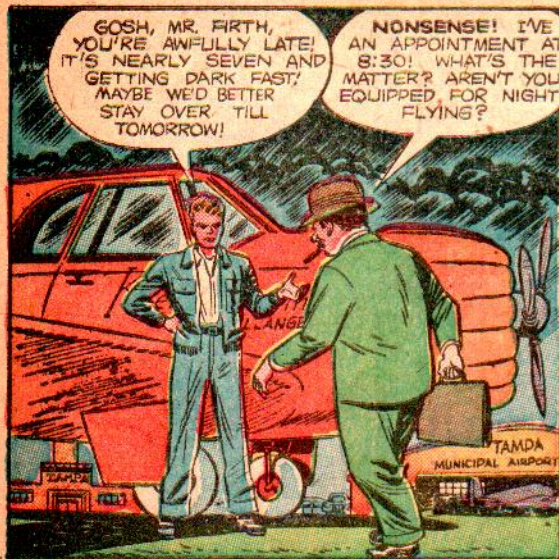


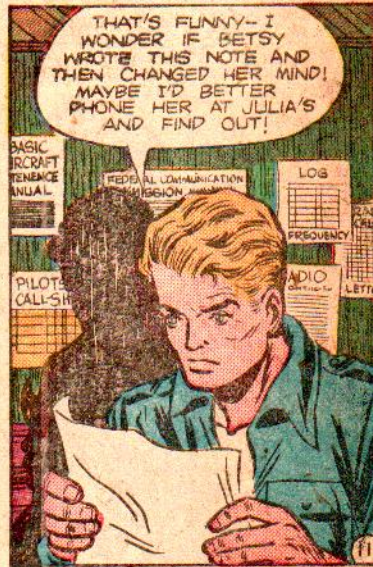
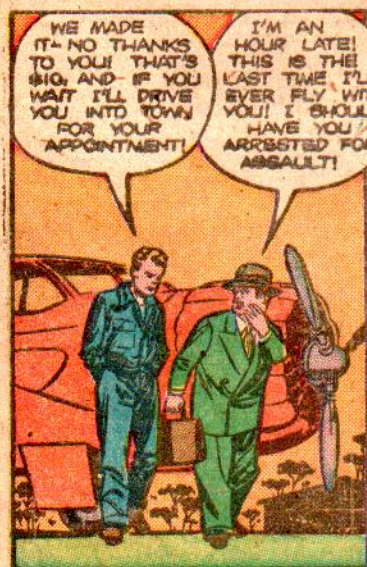
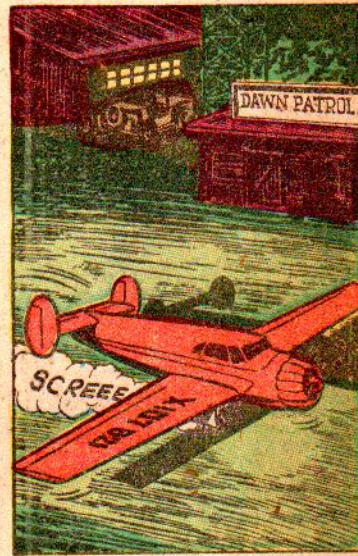
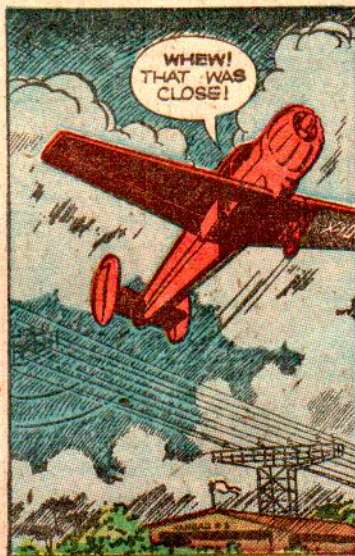
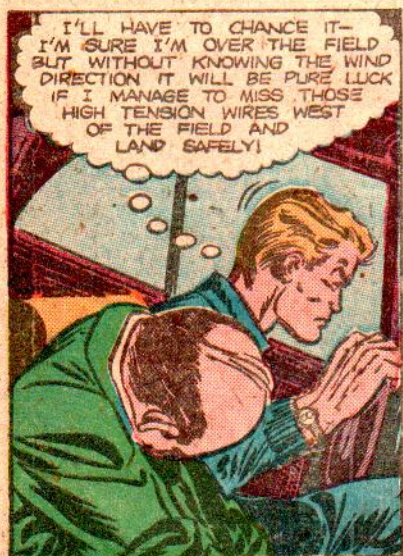
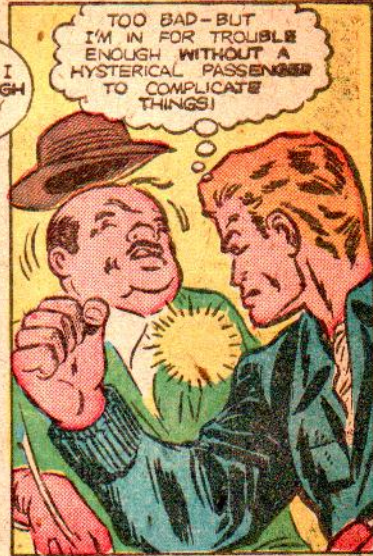
YES! IT'S A TOPNOTCH SCHOOL! THEY TURN OUT DARNED GOOD PILOTS AND TECHNICIANS! I'M HOPING TO FIND SOME RECRUITS FOR THE POLICE AIR PATROL AMONG THEM!

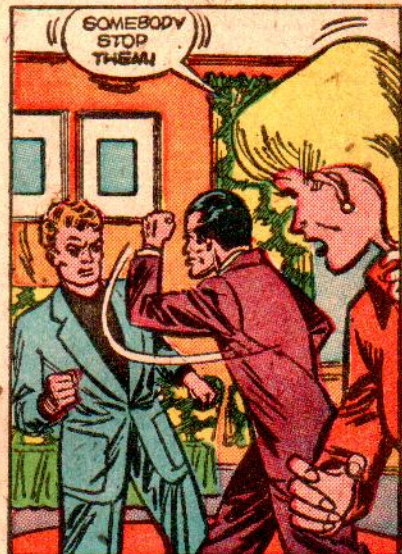
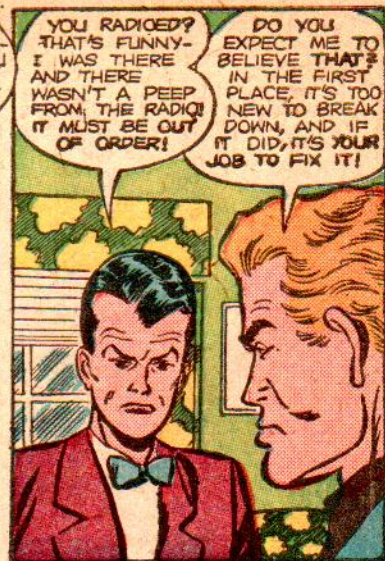


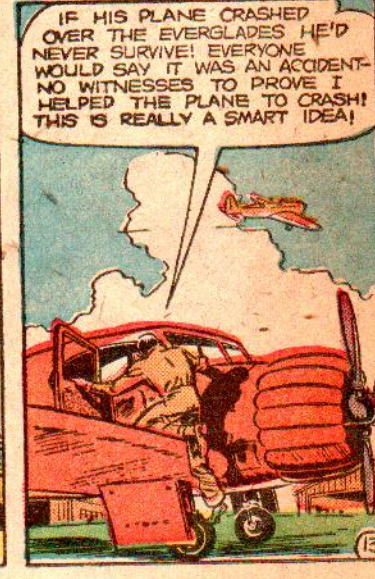
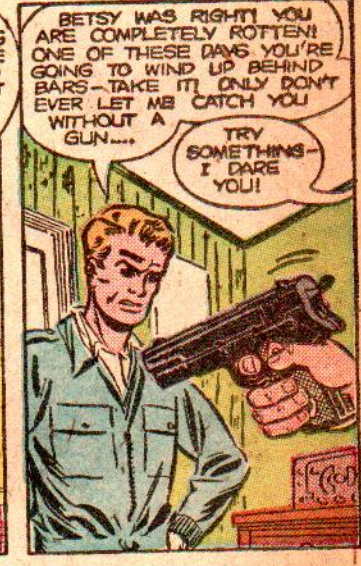














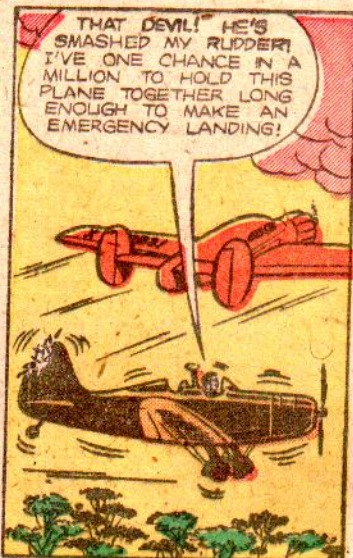
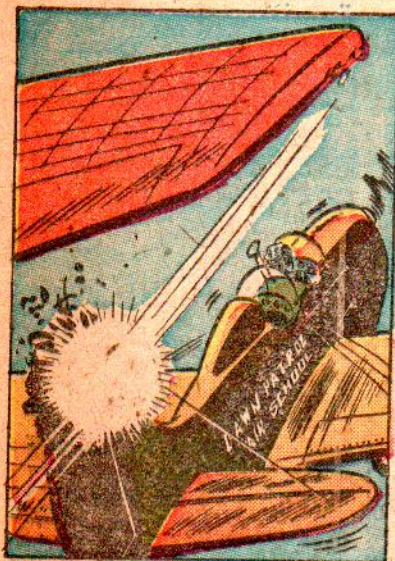
THE INSANE FOOL!
HE'S DELIBERATELY
TRYING TO FORCE
ME TO CRASH!



JIM-LOOK DOWN THERE!
SOMETHING FUNNY IS GOING ON!
THAT FOUR-SEATER IS TRYING
TO SMASH UP THAT OTHER
PLANE! TRY TO CATCH
THEIR C.A.A. REGISTRY
NUMBERS!



HELLO-HELLO-
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT?
THIS IS FLIGHT #247
REPORTING! TWO MONOPLANES
ARE IN A DOGFIGHT ABOUT
TEN MILES EAST OF
ORANGE CITY HIGHWAY!
GOT THE NUMBERS-
X-107-B21 AND X-121-32!



THAT DEVIL! HE'S
SMASHED MY RUDDER!
I'VE ONE CHANCE IN A
MILLION TO HOLD THIS
PLANE TOGETHER LONG
ENOUGH TO MAKE AN
EMERGENCY LANDING!



HE HASN'T A CHANCE!
I'LL HANG AROUND LONG
ENOUGH TO WATCH HIM
CRASH! THIS IS ONE TIME
CRAIG'S LUCK WON'T
SAVE HIM!



THEY AREN'T
HERE-AND BOTH
PLANES ARE MISSING!
OH, C.B., I HAVE AN
AWFUL FEELING
SOMETHING DREADFUL
IS GOING TO
HAPPEN!

TAKE IT
EASY, BETSY!
I THINK YOU'RE
OVER-DRAMATIZING
THIS! LET'S TAKE
A LOOK INSIDE
THE SHACK!
CRAIG MAY BE
IN THERE!



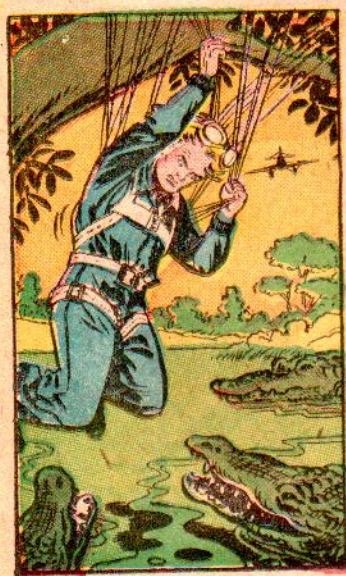
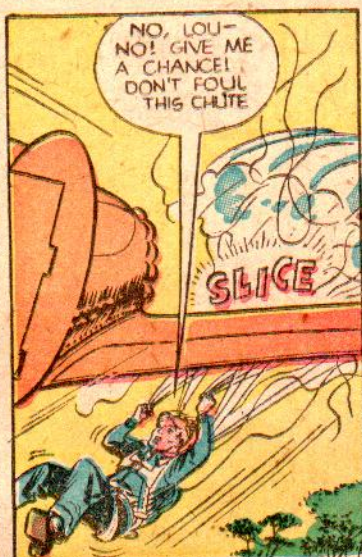
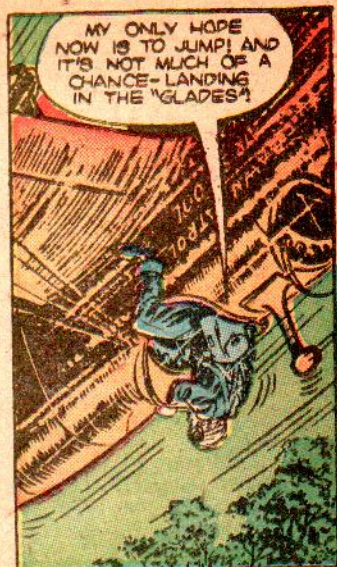
PILOT OF MIAMI-NEW ORLEANS
TRANSPORT FLIGHT REPORTS
SIGHTING TWO MONOPLANES
IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A
DOGFIGHT OVER EVERGLADES-
APPROXIMATE POSITION ABOUT
10 MILES EAST OF HIGHWAY 9-
C.A.A. NUMBERS
X-107-B21 AND
X-121-32!

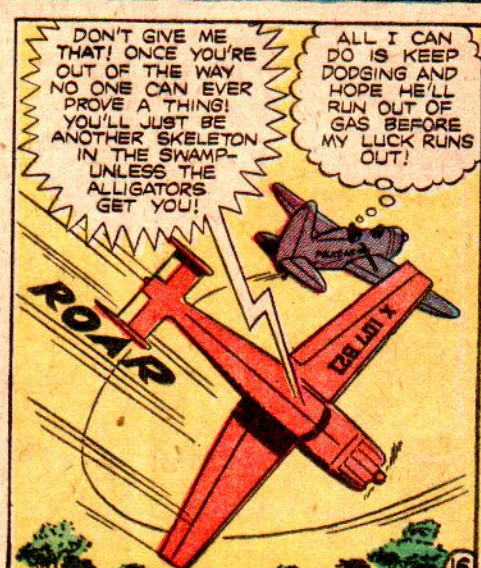
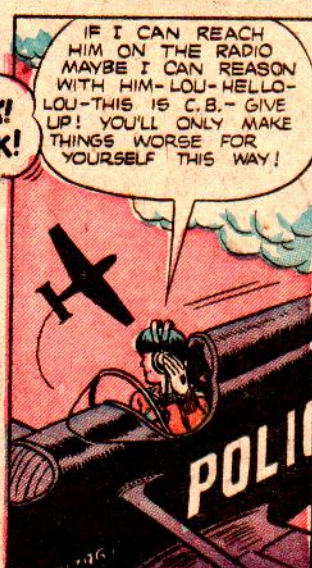
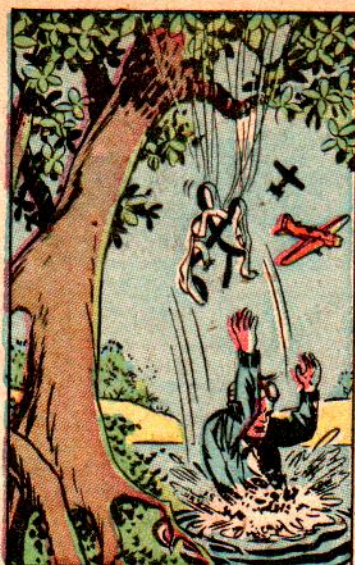
IT'S CRAIG
AND LOU! CRAIG'S
KENSINGTON IS
107-B21! NOW
WILL YOU
BELIEVE ME?



THIS IS CB CALLING
FROM DAWN PATROL
AIRPORT-REQUEST USE
OF POLICE PLANE TO
BREAK UP DOGFIGHT
OVER EVERGLADES-
URGENT-

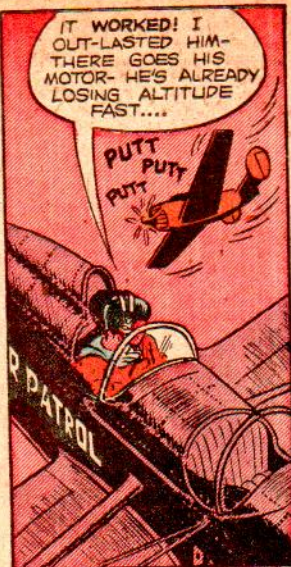
MUNICIPAL
AIRPORT CALLING-
WILL DISPATCH
PLANE AT ONCE-
STAND BY READY
TO TAKE OFF-







I CAN'T KEEP THIS UP MUCH LONGER—I'VE LOST TRACK OF HOW LONG WE'VE BEEN UP! IF HE WERE A BETTER PILOT I'D NEVER HAVE LASTED THIS LONG!



IT WORKED! I OUT-LASTED HIM—THERE GOES HIS MOTOR—HE'S ALREADY LOSING ALTITUDE FAST....



IF HE LIVED THROUGH THAT, HE'S LUCKY! I'D BETTER CHECK—EVEN THOUGH HE'S A RAT HE DESERVES TO BE RESCUED IF HE SURVIVED!



ALLIGATORS! LOU'S A GONER! THERE'S NOT A THING I CAN DO TO SAVE HIM—IF HE IS STILL ALIVE! HE GOT THE DEATH HE'D PLANNED FOR CRAIG—AND ME!



THIS IS THE CLOSEST POINT TO WHERE I LAST SAW CRAIG AND SQUEEKS FROM THE AIR! IT WAS HOURS AGO—BUT IF ANYONE COULD FIND HIS WAY THROUGH THIS TREACHEROUS SWAMP SQUEEKS COULD!—HELLO, SQUEEKS! HELLO, SQUEEKS!



OH, NO! CRAIG CAN'T BE DEAD! HE CAN'T! I LOVE HIM TOO MUCH! I DON'T BELIEVE IT...I...

WAIT—LOOK! DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?



SQUEEKS, SQUEEKS, YOU MADE IT!

SQUEEK! SQUEEK!

CRAIG! OH, CRAIG, YOU'RE ALIVE!



SQUEEKS, YOU'RE A HERO! GOSH, YOU DON'T KNOW HOW WORRIED I WAS! IF ANYTHING HAD HAPPENED TO YOU....



CB, WE WANT YOU TO BE THE FIRST TO KNOW—BETSY AND I ARE GOING INTO A DOUBLE PARTNERSHIP! WE'RE GOING TO BE MARRIED—AND FROM NOW ON IT'S GOING TO BE THE CRAIG AND BETSY FLYING SCHOOL! BOTH PLANES WERE INSURED, SO WE CAN CARRY ON!

AND IF YOU'LL LET US, WE WANT TO PAINT SQUEEKS' PICTURE ON THE SIDE OF EVERY PLANE WE EVER OWN! HE'S OUR GOOD LUCK EMBLEM! I LOVE YOU, SQUEEKS!

SQUEEK! SQUEEK!

THE END



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OR TABLE**

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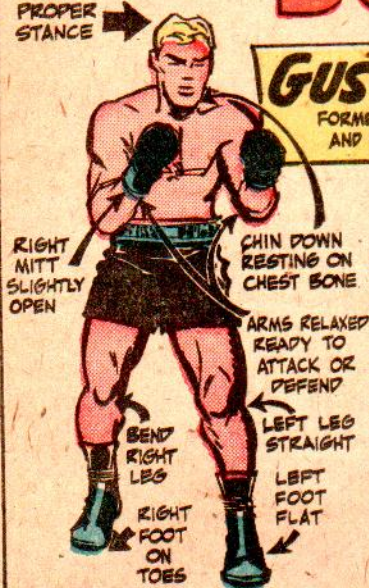
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POINTS ON CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING

PROPER
STANCE →



GUS LESNEVICH

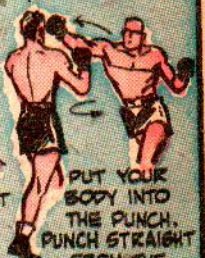
FORMER LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP
AND HEAVYWEIGHT CONTENDER.



PUNCHING →



BY GIVING YOUR SHOULDER A TURN TO THE RIGHT YOU ADD POWER TO YOUR LEFT HOOK OR LEFT JAB...



DEFENSIVE TACTICS →



IN SLIPPING PUNCHES, MOVE YOUR HEAD SLIGHTLY TO THE LEFT OR RIGHT, MAKING YOUR OPPONENT MISS. KNOW-HOW COMES WITH PRACTICE...



ALWAYS MOVE IN OPPOSITE DIRECTION OF YOUR OPPONENT'S BEST BLOW...

WHEN YOU'RE HURT OR TIRED, MOVE IN CLOSE AND CLINCH WITH YOUR OPPONENT BY PINNING HIS ARMS AGAINST YOUR BODY, UNTIL THE REFEREE TELLS YOU TO 'BREAK!'

FOOTWORK →



SKIPPING AND JUMPING AROUND THE RING PUTS YOU OFF BALANCE. KEEP YOUR PROPER STANCE...



TRAINING →



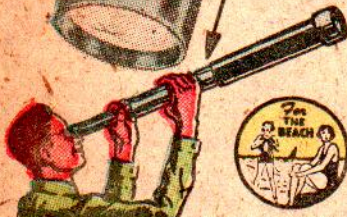
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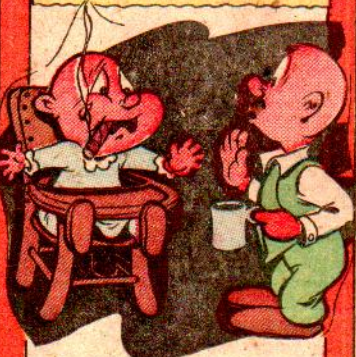
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OCCUPANTS OF A PRISON IN CENTRAL, ILLINOIS, ARE PERMITTED FREEDOM TO PLY THEIR TRADES DURING THE DAY, BUT MUST RETURN TO THEIR CELLS AT NIGHT!



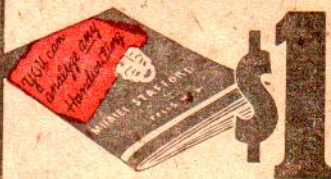
LYNN, MAES, LAW FORBIDS GIVING COFFEE TO BABIES!



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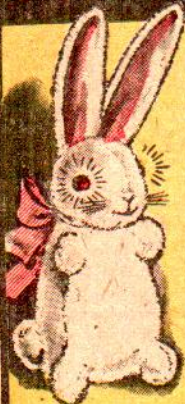
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- 13 Inches High
- Lifelike Appearance
- She Can Be Washed
- She Has Moving Eyes

Here she is now, that CUDDLY, HUGGABLE, love-me baby BEAUTIFUL BLONDIE. She is 13" high and her soft, smooth body is of REAL RUBBER WONDERSKIN. SQUEEZE HER AND SHE COOS! . . . just like a baby. Every little mother will want Blondie for her carriage. She's got Blondie curls aplenty, and they're thick and long just like real hair. Blondie's hair can be put up in ribbons at night and tucked her in bed and watch her long lashes sleepily close those big blue eyes. She rests soundly till her next day of fun. Every child will have the time of her life giving her body a bath and powdering her soft, babyed-in bright BIRTHDAY PARTY dress, cute panties, shoes and stockings. Wonderful, beautiful, amazing doll is yours for this unbelievably low price. **SEND NO MONEY.** Remit with order and we pay postage or order C.O.D. plus postage.

EVERYBODY LOVES ME...
WON'T YOU?

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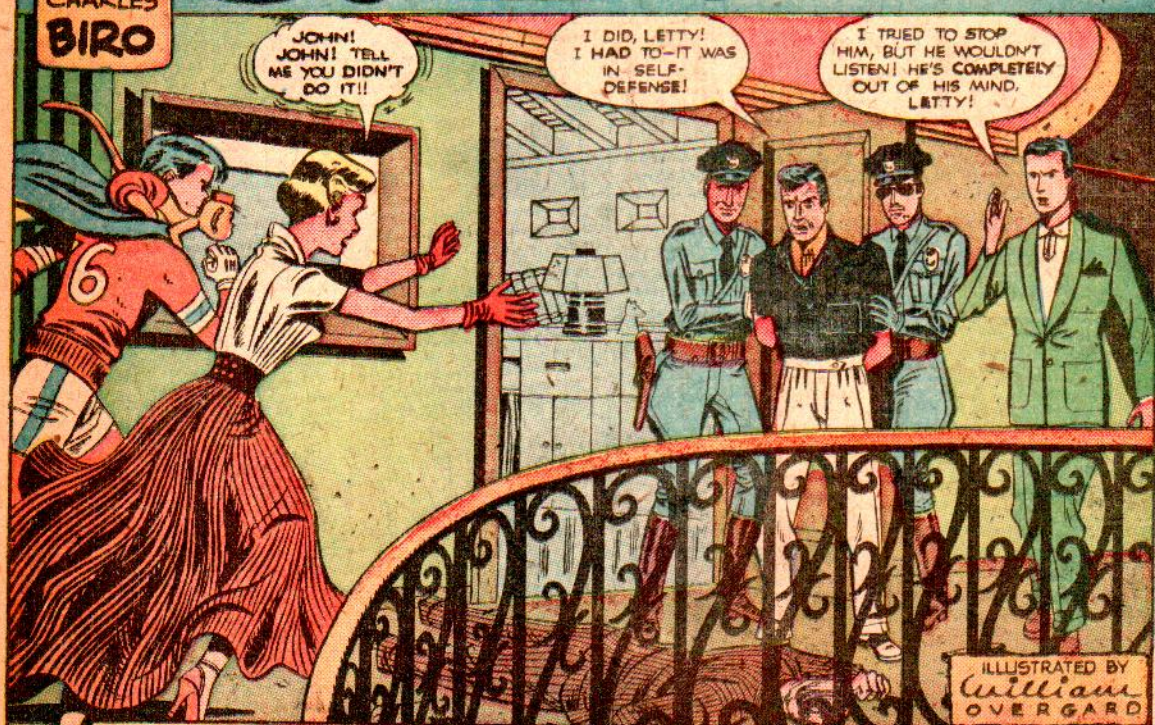
AND THE MAN
WHO MADE
WORDS KILL!

STORY BY
**CHARLES
BIRO**

JOHN!
JOHN! TELL
ME YOU DIDN'T
DO IT!!

I DID, LETTY!
I HAD TO—IT WAS
IN SELF-
DEFENSE!

I TRIED TO STOP
HIM, BUT HE WOULDN'T
LISTEN! HE'S COMPLETELY
OUT OF HIS MIND,
LETTY!



ILLUSTRATED BY
William
OVERGARD

IF BEFORE THE COMMISSION OF HIS CRIME, THE CRIMINAL COULD FEEL THE MADDENING TORTURE OF IMPRISONMENT, HE WOULD FORGET HIS PLANS AND RUN THE OTHER WAY! IN SOME RESPECTS ANIMALS HAVE MORE SENSE THAN CRIMINALS! WHEN THEY ARE UNHAPPY WITH THEIR ENVIRONMENT OR LOT, THEY DON'T DEVOUR THEIR MASTERS—THEY KNOW IT'S A LOT LESS TROUBLE AND SAFER TO TAKE A LONG WALK, AND MAKE A NEW START SOMEWHERE ELSE! BUT NOT SO WITH THE NARROW, BITTER MIND OF A DELIBERATE MURDERER! REGARDLESS OF THE MOTIVE, HE IS MUCH TOO SHORT-SIGHTED TO KNOW THAT ALL HE'D HAVE TO DO TO CHANGE THE DISTASTEFUL PREDICAMENT WHICH IS DRIVING HIM TO MURDER IS TO PICK UP STICKS AND START A NEW LIFE IF HE DOESN'T LIKE THINGS WHERE HE IS AND AS THEY ARE! HEREIN LIES THE TALE OF A SAWDUST-HEAD WHO THOUGHT HE COULD BEND DESTINY TO HIS WILL!

Charles Biro

LETTY, DARLING, I WANT
YOU TO GET RID OF THAT
COOK! PLEASE DON'T ARGUE!
I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING
ABOUT! SHE STEALS AND
SHE SPIES ON ME!

OH, JOHN, HOW
CAN YOU SAY
SUCH THINGS!
ALL MRS. BAILEY
THINKS ABOUT IS
COOKING! WHY
SHOULD SHE SPY
ON YOU?

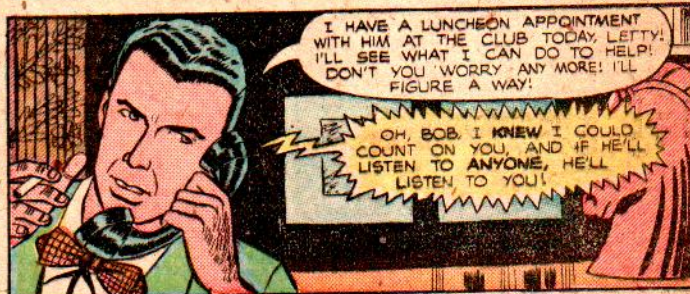
I JUST DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO
YOU THESE PAST FEW
MONTHS! YOU MADE ME
FIRE THE LAST COOK ON
THE SAME PRETEXT, AND
I KNOW PERFECTLY WELL
SHE WAS ABSOLUTELY
HONEST—AND THE SAME
THING WITH THE CHAUFFEUR!

HE TRIED TO RUN ME
DOWN WITH THE CAR!
HE SAID THE BRAKES
SLIPPED, BUT I
KNOW BETTER
THAN THAT!

JOHN, IT WAS AN
ACCIDENT! EVEN THE
GARAGEMAN SAID THE
BRAKES WERE DEFECTIVE!
I HATE TO SAY THIS,
JOHN, BUT I THINK YOU
SHOULD SEE A DOCTOR!
I THINK YOU'RE
DEVELOPING A REGULAR
PERSECUTION
COMPLEX!

WHAT! HOW
DARE YOU
SUGGEST SUCH
A THING!
YOU'RE ACCUSING
ME OF BEING
INSANE!









HE CAUGHT ME OFF-GUARD—NOTHING SERIOUS! I'M AFRAID HE NEEDS PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT IMMEDIATELY! IT'S LUCKY THIS HAPPENED AMONG FRIENDS, SO THAT IT CAN BE HANDLED QUIETLY! I'VE A FRIEND WHO'S A PSYCHIATRIST! PERHAPS WE'D BETTER TAKE HIM THERE FOR AN EXAMINATION!

POOR JOHN! I DREAD HAVING TO BREAK THE NEWS TO LETTY!



...AND SO HE HAD TO BE RUSHED RIGHT OFF TO THE SANATORIUM! YOU'LL HAVE TO SIGN PAPERS GIVING YOUR CONSENT FOR HIM TO BE TREATED, SO I'LL TAKE YOU THERE!

OH, POOR JOHN! I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED BUT I NEVER DREAMED IT COULD BE SO SERIOUS! HE MUST GET BETTER! HE MUST!



YOUR HUSBAND'S CONDITION IS SERIOUS! HIS CHANCES OF RECOVERY ARE VERY SLIGHT! HE MAY RESPOND TO SHOCK TREATMENT BUT I CAN'T PROMISE A THING! ONLY TIME WILL TELL!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! SOB! SOB!



BOB, YOU'RE JOHN'S BEST FRIEND, SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL! YOU KNOW WHAT A WONDERFUL PERSON JOHN WAS—UNTIL THIS HAPPENED! I'M SO GLAD I HAVE YOU TO TALK TO!

I'M GLAD YOU FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT ME, LETTY! I HOPE YOU WILL LET ME HELP YOU ALL I CAN!



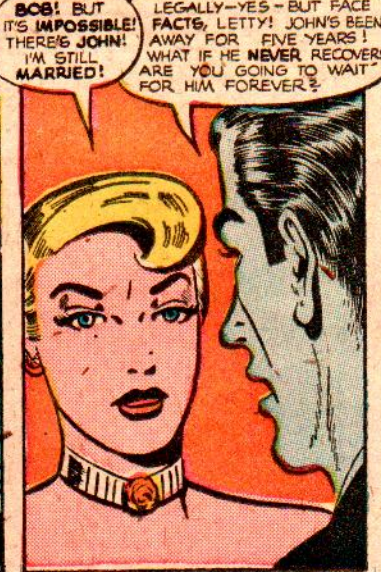
I HAD A LETTER FROM THE SANATORIUM TODAY, AND IT SAYS JOHN'S CONDITION IS WORSE THAN EVER! IT MAKES ME FEEL SO UNHAPPY! I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU BEING SO KIND TO ME! GOING OUT LIKE THIS HELPS ME SO MUCH!

I ENJOY BEING WITH YOU, LETTY! I ONLY WISH THE CIRCUMSTANCES WERE DIFFERENT!



I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEAN, BOB!

YOU STILL THINK OF ME AS JOHN'S BEST FRIEND—I WISH YOU COULD THINK OF ME AS MORE THAN THAT—OH, LETTY, I MAY AS WELL CONFESS—I LOVE YOU!



BOB! BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THERE'S JOHN! I'M STILL MARRIED!

LEGALLY—YES—BUT FACE FACTS, LETTY! JOHN'S BEEN AWAY FOR FIVE YEARS! WHAT IF HE NEVER RECOVERS? ARE YOU GOING TO WAIT FOR HIM FOREVER?



I—I HADN'T THOUGHT THAT FAR AHEAD!

BUT YOU MUST! THERE'S A STATE LAW THAT WOULD RELEASE YOU FROM YOUR MARRIAGE TO JOHN IF HE REMAINS IN A MENTAL INSTITUTION FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS!



YOU'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH, LETTY, DARLING! YOU DESERVE HAPPINESS! YOU CAN'T GO ON YEAR AFTER YEAR ALONE! MARRY ME, AND I PROMISE TO MAKE YOU HAPPY!

THIS IS ALL A NEW IDEA, BOB! LET ME THINK ABOUT IT! GOOD NIGHT!

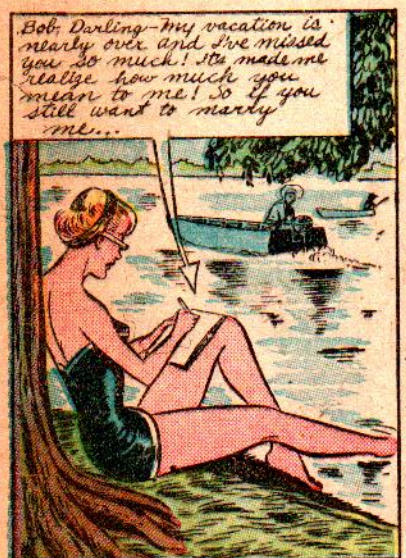


PERHAPS BOB IS RIGHT! JOHN IS SO UNBALANCED, HE DOESN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE ME WHEN I VISIT HIM! I MIGHT AS WELL BE FREE—ALTHOUGH I STILL NEED TIME TO DECIDE WHETHER TO REMARRY!



I'VE STARTED LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TO END MY MARRIAGE TO JOHN, BOB! MEANWHILE, I'M TAKING A TWO WEEKS' VACATION FROM MY JOB! I WANT TO GO AWAY TO THINK THINGS OVER ABOUT US! WHEN I COME BACK, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT MY DECISION IS!

I HOPE YOU'LL DECIDE FOR ME! I WANT TO MARRY YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD!



Bob, Darling—my vacation is nearly over and I've missed you so much! It's made me realize how much you mean to me! So if you still want to marry me...



LETTY, DARLING, EVER SINCE I GOT YOUR LETTER, I'VE BEEN HARDLY ABLE TO WAIT—WE'LL BE MARRIED THE INSTANT YOU'RE FREE—YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HAPPY I AM!

I'M TERRIBLY HAPPY, TOO—WHY, LOOK! THERE ARE LIGHTS ON IN THE HOUSE! WHOEVER COULD HAVE TURNED THEM ON?



JOHN! JOHN! IS IT REALLY YOU?

LETTY! LETTY, DARLING!



... BUT DIDN'T YOU GET MY LETTER? I WROTE TO YOU NEARLY TWO WEEKS AGO—AS SOON AS THE DOCTORS SAID I WAS CURED!

IT MUST HAVE COME WHILE I WAS AWAY! I FORGOT TO HAVE MY MAIL FORWARDED!



THIS DOES MIX THINGS UP! WHEN THE DOCTORS SAID YOU COULDN'T BE CURED, LETTY ARRANGED FOR YOUR MARRIAGE TO BE SET ASIDE—SHE WAS GOING TO MARRY ME! NOW—

LOOK, LETTY, IF YOU'D PREFER IT, I'LL CLEAR OUT! ALL I WANT IS YOUR HAPPINESS!

OH, NO! YOU CAN'T DO THAT!



YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU, BOB? WHEN I AGREED TO MARRY YOU, IT WAS BECAUSE I THOUGHT JOHN WAS NEVER COMING BACK! I LOVE YOU—BUT NOT THE WAY I LOVE JOHN! I COULD NEVER LEAVE HIM NOW!

I UNDERSTAND! I CAN'T HELP FEELING DISAPPOINTED, BUT JUST THE SAME—I'M GLAD FOR BOTH OF YOU! NOW, I'M GOING TO LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE!

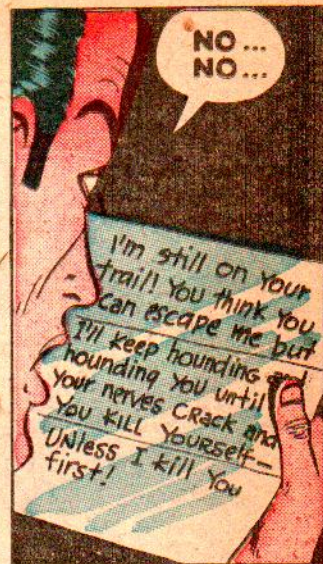


THIS WEEK HAS BEEN THE HAPPIEST IN MY LIFE! WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN, AND I'M ALL CURED OF TERRIBLE BLACK THOUGHTS AND SUSPICIONS! NEXT WEEK, I'LL START BACK TO WORK!

OH, OH, SPEAKING OF WORK, I'LL BE LATE IF I DON'T LEAVE RIGHT AWAY! I'M HANDING IN MY RESIGNATION TODAY, SO HEREAFTER I'LL BE A HOUSEWIFE INSTEAD OF A CAREER GIRL!



IT'S LONESOME WITH LETTY AWAY! HMM...HERE'S SOME MAIL! MAYBE THERE'S A LETTER FROM THE OFFICE FOR ME! HAM...NOTHING BUT AN AD...NO...WAIT A SEC...WHAT'S WRITTEN ON THE BACK?



NO... NO...

I'm still on your trail! You think you can escape me but I'll keep hounding and your nerves crack and you kill yourself - Unless I kill you first!



LETTY-YOU MUST COME HOME AT ONCE! I'VE JUST RECEIVED A THREATENING NOTE! I CAN PROVE IT! I HAVE IT RIGHT HERE! PLEASE COME HOME!

JOHN! OH, NO! IT CAN'T BE HAPPENING AGAIN! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK-ONLY, PLEASE BE CALM!



I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, LETTY, BUT I HAVE PROOF! READ THE NOTE YOURSELF!

LET ME SEE IT, JOHN!



NOTE! I DON'T SEE ANY NOTE! THIS IS JUST AN ADVERTISEMENT! OH, JOHN, IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN-YOU'RE IMAGINING THINGS!

I'M NOT! I SWEAR I'M NOT! THERE WAS A NOTE WRITTEN ON THERE!



HOW COULD I HAVE SEEN IT WHEN IT ISN'T HERE NOW? CAN I STILL BE CRAZY? NO, I'M NOT! THERE WAS A NOTE-SOMEONE IS AFTER ME! LOCK THE DOOR!

IT'S YOUR IMAGINATION, JOHN! OH, DARLING, PLEASE GO LIE DOWN IN YOUR ROOM AND REST! YOU'RE ALL UPSET!



WHAT'LL I DO, BOB? THAT'S THE PAPER THAT CAME IN THE ENVELOPE! BUT THERE'S NO NOTE ON THE BACK! HE'S LOCKED HIMSELF IN HIS ROOM AND INSISTS HE'S IN DANGER!

HMM...PERFECTLY BLANK! IF IT WERE ANYONE BUT JOHN, I'D SAY TO RECOMMIT HIM-BUT THIS MAY BE JUST A TEMPORARY RELAPSE! GIVE HIM TIME!



BOB! WHY ARE YOU BURNING THAT UP?

FOR JOHN'S SAKE, LETTY! IF THE AUTHORITIES LEARNED ABOUT THIS NOTE BUSINESS AND SAW THIS BLANK PAPER, THEY MIGHT TAKE HIM BACK! I WOULDN'T MENTION IT IF I WERE YOU!



BOB ADVISED ME AGAINST TELLING ANYONE ABOUT THE MAKE-BELIEVE NOTE BECAUSE HE THOUGHT IF THE AUTHORITIES FOUND IT OUT THEY MIGHT RECOMMIT JOHN, BUT YOU'RE HIS FRIEND AND I FEEL I CAN TRUST YOU! I MUST HAVE HELP—JOHN IS GETTING WORSE EVERY DAY!

IT'S STRANGE...I HAD A REPORT FROM THE HEAD DOCTOR WHEN JOHN WAS RELEASED, AND HE DECLARED HIM FULLY CURED! MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING MORE TO THIS! IT'S WORTH INVESTIGATING! WOULD YOU HANDLE THIS CASE, C.B.?

I'LL BE GLAD TO DO IT, LOOVER!

IT'S TOO BAD YOU DESTROYED THAT NOTE, BOB! IT MIGHT HAVE HELPED TO HAVE IT! NOW, ALL I HAVE TO GO ON IS THIS ENVELOPE! I THINK I'LL GO SPEAK TO JOHN AND SEE IF HE CAN REMEMBER THE WORDING OF THAT NOTE!

SURELY YOU DON'T BELIEVE HIS CRAZY STORY!

HUSH, BOB! LET C.B. HANDLE THIS HIS WAY!



HE WON'T OPEN HIS DOOR TO ANYONE, C.B.! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU'RE GOING TO GET IN TO SEE HIM!

GIVE ME SOME ROPE AND SHOW ME THE WAY TO THE ROOF! I'LL COME IN THROUGH HIS WINDOW WHILE YOU DISTRACT HIM BY KNOCKING ON HIS DOOR!



SO! YOU'VE FINALLY COME! BUT I WON'T LET YOU KILL ME!



WAIT! LET ME EXPLAIN!

I'VE KEPT THIS GUN FOR JUST THIS MOMENT!



I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU! I'M YOUR FRIEND! I BELIEVE YOUR STORY!



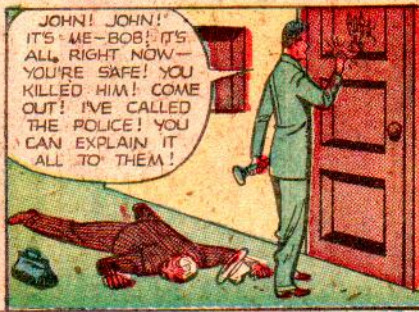
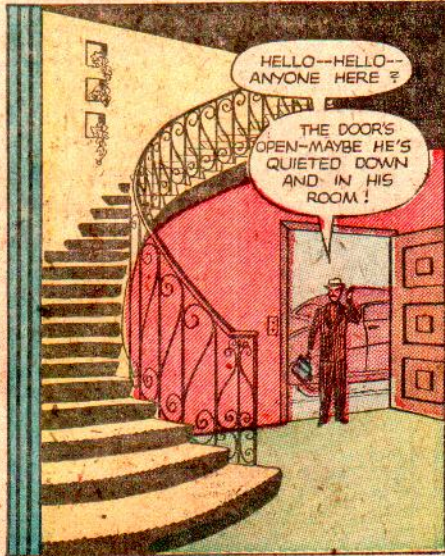
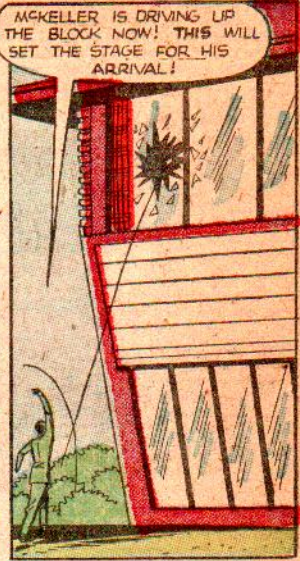
NOW, WHO WOULD WANT TO FRIGHTEN YOU? THINK! I'M SURE IT'S NOT LETTY—SHE LOVES YOU! WHAT ABOUT BOB? WOULD HE HAVE ANY MOTIVES?

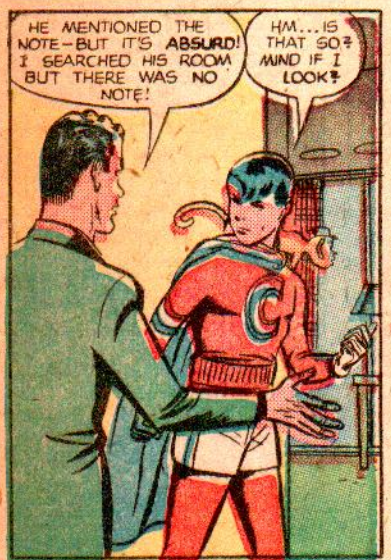
BOB! HE'S MY BEST FRIEND! OF COURSE, HE HAD PLANNED TO MARRY LETTY, AND THEN I CAME BACK AND SPOILED THINGS...BUT HE WAS A WONDERFUL SPORT ABOUT IT! WE LEFT THE DECISION TO LETTY!



HMM...I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THAT! WELL, I'LL RUN ALONG AND SEE IF I CAN GET ANY CLUES FROM THE ENVELOPE! MEANTIME, MAYBE YOU'D BETTER GIVE ME THE GUN BACK!

NO! I MUST HAVE IT TO PROTECT MYSELF! I WON'T USE IT UNLESS SOMEONE ATTEMPTS TO ATTACK ME—I PROMISE!





THIS IS YOUR PAGE

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Dear Reader:

In every issue of BOY COMICS this page is devoted to your opinions, ideas and suggestions. Since the conception of BOY COMICS we have been guided by two ideals—first, the eradication of crime and second, to give credit to the fearless detectives and officers of the law who daily risk their lives that you and we may live in a more lawful society.

CHARLES BIRO and BOB WOOD, Editors

BOY is my favorite comic because all the stories seem so realistic. When I read them I can almost place myself in one of the character's place and feel just as he did.

Annette Thiboult
12218 Mesaba Ave.
Artesia, Calif.

I have read BOY Comics for over a year now, and I want to say that it is the best book I have ever read. In BOY you learn how to do right instead of wrong. I've gotten all the boys in my neighborhood interested in reading BOY, and they, too, agree that it is the best book anyone can read.

Doyle Jones
Revelo, Ky.

I want to compliment BOY Comics for the fine job it is doing. I am eleven years old, and I think that it is a wonderful book for teaching growing children, containing sensible happenings to content unsatisfied minds. All of your comics are welcome on my reading list.

Michael Pokalsky
R. D. #1
Nicholson, Pa.

Recently I went downtown to the drug store to buy a magazine. I didn't have any particular one in mind, so when I saw BOY Comics on the stand I picked it up and glanced through a few pages. It looked very interesting, so I bought it and read it. As far as I'm concerned I made a rather good choice, and from now on I'm going to be a steady reader. For the one thing that I liked about this book is that the characters seem human. Congratulations on your fine work.

G. Skarpelas
1809 S. Meyler St.
San Pedro, Calif.

I am a boy of fifteen, which is sometimes the age when one is apt to get into serious trouble. I buy BOY Comics every month, for each issue tells me to watch myself or it might be me the next time who is getting into trouble. BOY, in addition to affording me a great deal of enjoyment, will also help me during life.

Jim Garman
91 West Linton
Philadelphia, Pa.

I am a steady reader of BOY and DAREDEVIL, and my son and husband are real fans of these magazines, too. I began reading them while in the hospital, where they were given to me by an elderly patient. I'm due to go back to the hospital again, and you can bet BOY and DAREDEVIL will go along too to help cheer me up. Keep 'em coming.

Mrs. Mildred Lang
290 Mohawk Street
Cincinnati, Ohio

I read BOY Comics every chance I get, and I enjoy each issue very much. My mother, who reads most of my books, says that BOY is the best, because it really proves that crime does not pay.

Shirley Smith
794 Elk Street
Buffalo 10, N. Y.

I just finished reading BOY #44. I always read comics which are published by Lev Gleason and edited by Charles Biro and Bob Wood, because I think they're really swell. After I read BOY, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL, CRIME DOES NOT PAY, and BLACK DIAMOND, my grandmother asks me to tell her what the stories are about. She always enjoys them, and always adds that they are grand stories for me to read.

Teddy D. Queral
Aklan College
Calivo, Capiz
Philippine Islands

At the request of some signatories, only their initials and addresses appear. Please try to limit letters to about 50 words. All letters become the property of Lev Gleason Publications, Inc., and we reserve the right to edit same. Address all letters to READER'S PAGE, BOY COMICS, 114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, New York.

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NOW**

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1665 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago 47, Ill.

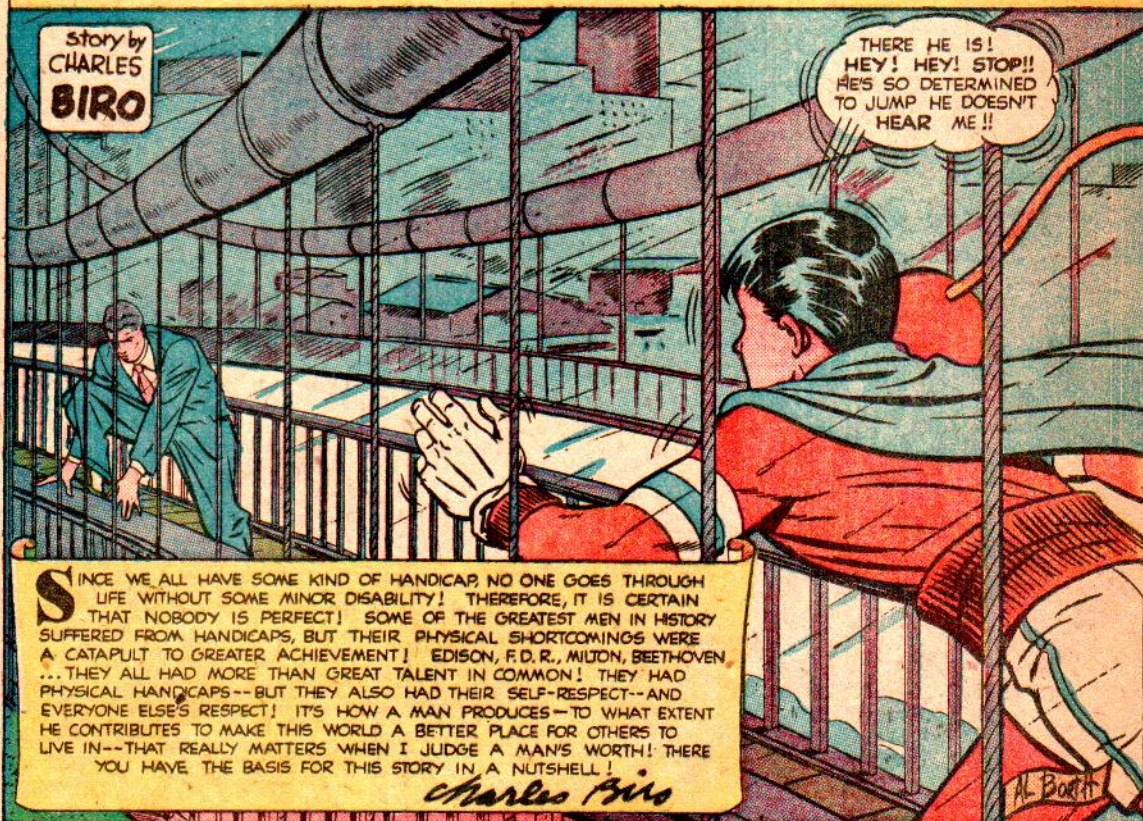
Dept. 394-A

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ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____
NAME TO BE ENGRAVED _____
(First Name)

C.B. AND THE DEAF ONE!

story by
**CHARLES
BIRO**



THERE HE IS!
HEY! HEY! STOP!!
HE'S SO DETERMINED
TO JUMP HE DOESN'T
HEAR ME!!

SINCE WE ALL HAVE SOME KIND OF HANDICAP, NO ONE GOES THROUGH LIFE WITHOUT SOME MINOR DISABILITY! THEREFORE, IT IS CERTAIN THAT NOBODY IS PERFECT! SOME OF THE GREATEST MEN IN HISTORY SUFFERED FROM HANDICAPS, BUT THEIR PHYSICAL SHORTCOMINGS WERE A CATAPULT TO GREATER ACHIEVEMENT! EDISON, F.D.R., MILTON, BEETHOVEN... THEY ALL HAD MORE THAN GREAT TALENT IN COMMON! THEY HAD PHYSICAL HANDICAPS-- BUT THEY ALSO HAD THEIR SELF-RESPECT--AND EVERYONE ELSE'S RESPECT! IT'S HOW A MAN PRODUCES--TO WHAT EXTENT HE CONTRIBUTES TO MAKE THIS WORLD A BETTER PLACE FOR OTHERS TO LIVE IN--THAT REALLY MATTERS WHEN I JUDGE A MAN'S WORTH! THERE YOU HAVE, THE BASIS FOR THIS STORY IN A NUTSHELL!

Charles Biro

Al Borth



THINGS HAVE QUIETED
DOWN AROUND HERE, C.B.!
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A
FEW DAYS OFF? I'LL
PHONE YOU IF A NEW
CASE COMES UP!

OKAY, LOOVER!
I COULD USE A
FEW DAYS RIGHT
NOW! I'VE BEEN
WAITING TO CATCH
UP ON SOMETHING
AT HOME!

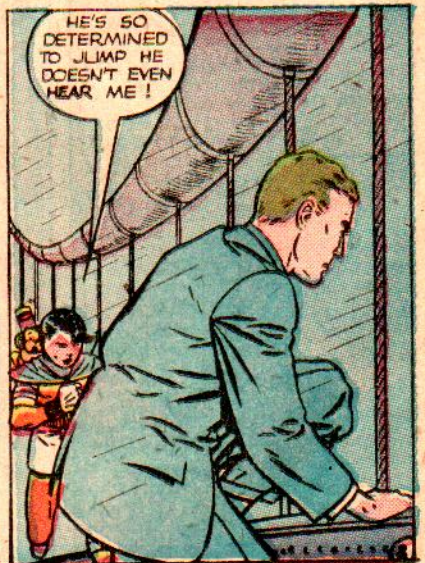
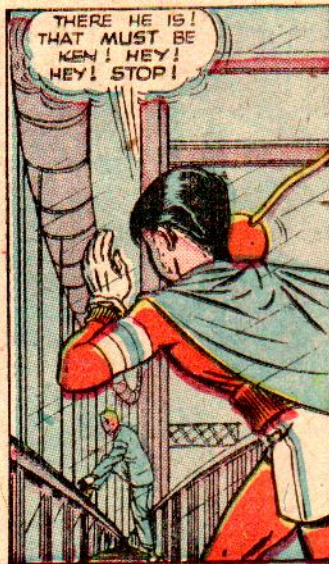
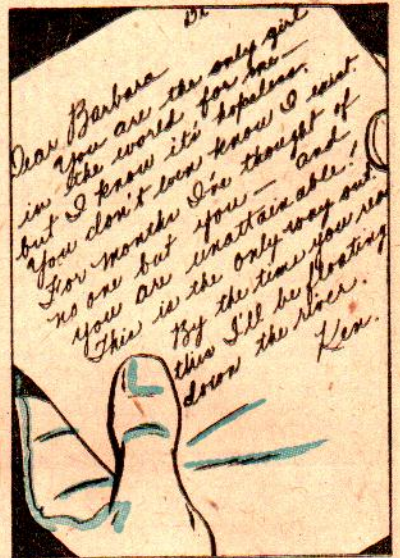
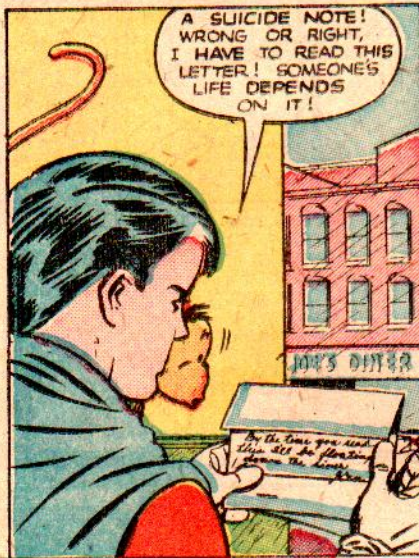
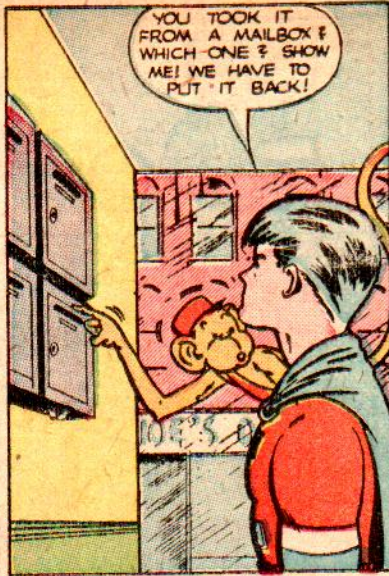
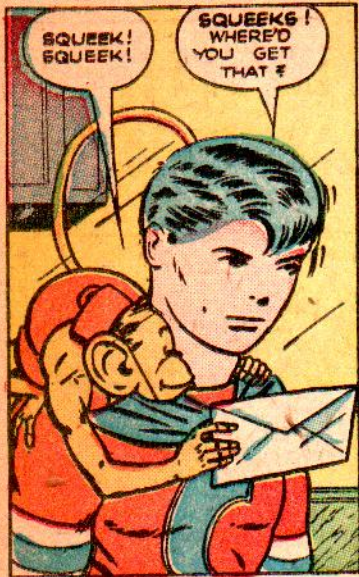


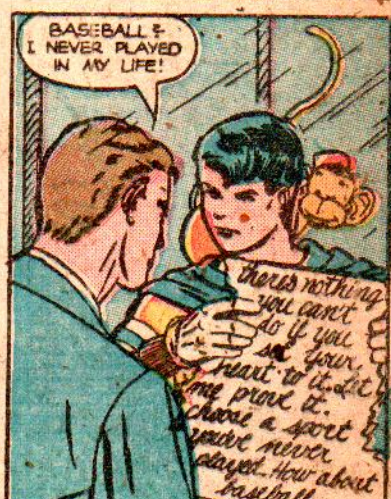
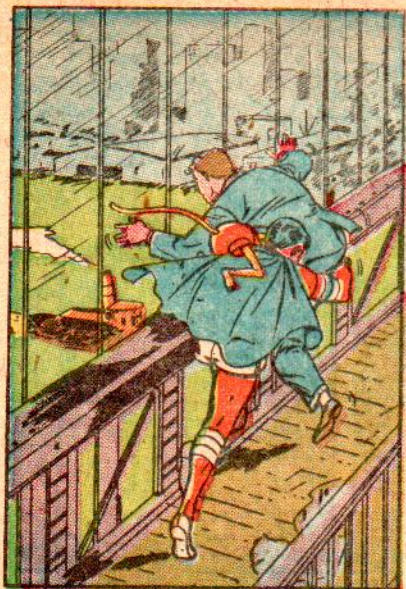
OOPS! LOOKS
LIKE WE'RE NOT
GOING TO MAKE IT
HOME BEFORE THIS
SHOWER!

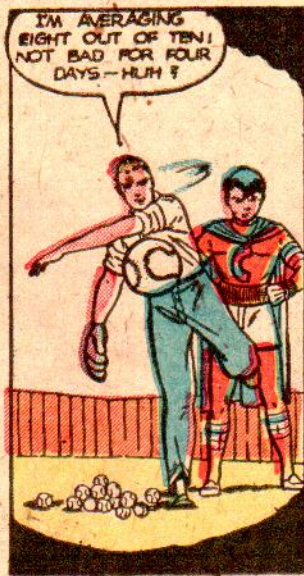
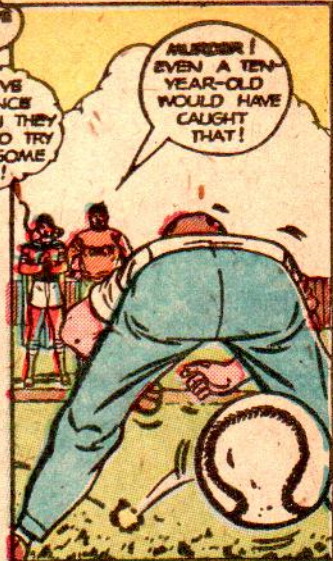
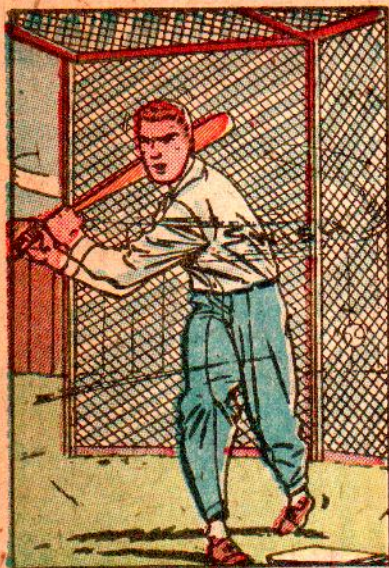


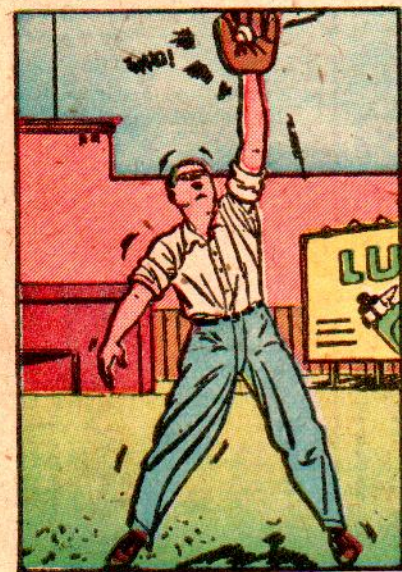
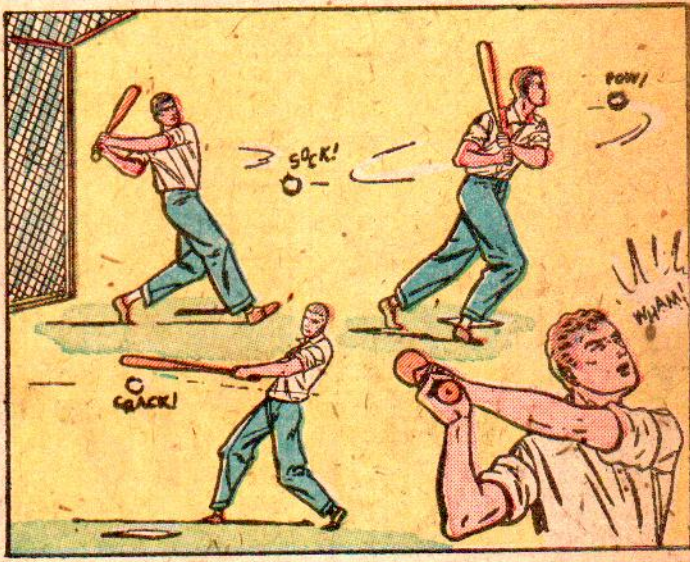
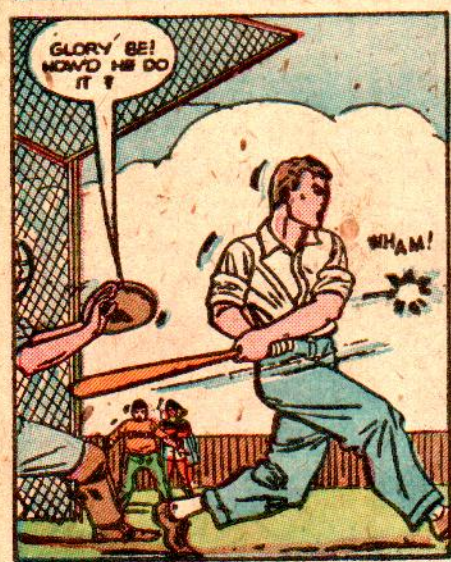
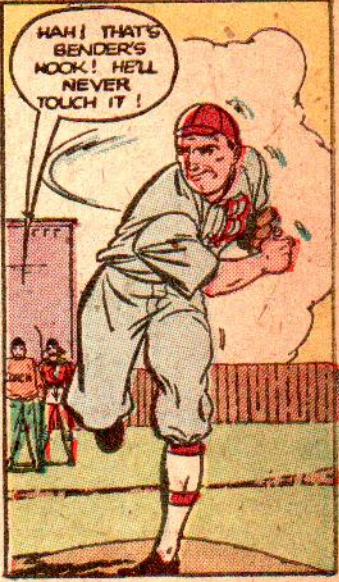
WE'D BETTER
DUCK IN HERE
OR WE'LL BE
DROWNED!

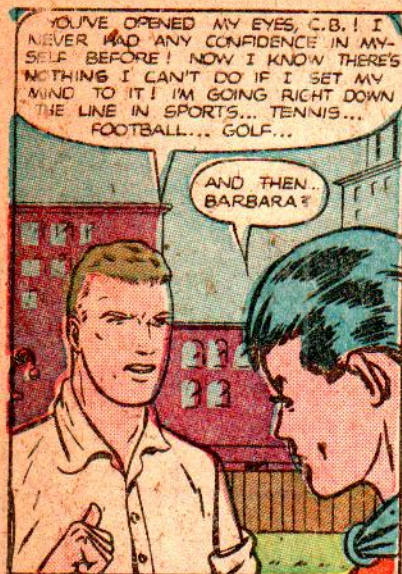


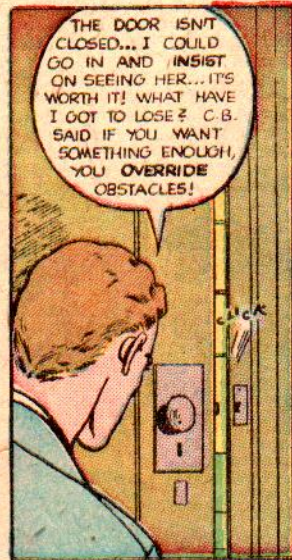
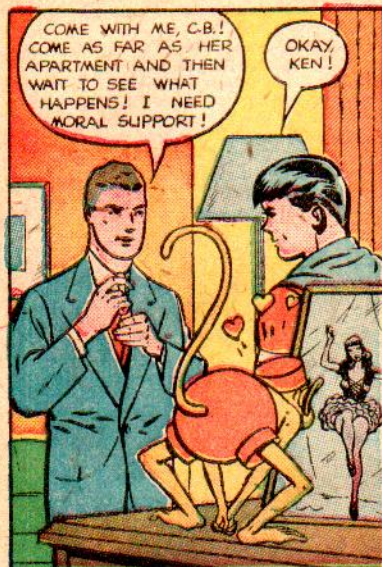


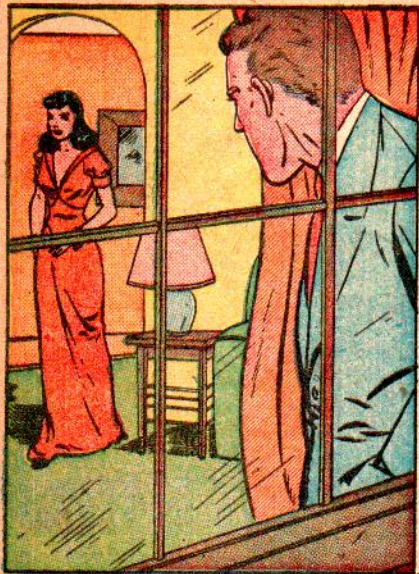












IT'S BARBARA!
BEAUTIFUL BARBARA...
WELL... IT'S NOW
OR NEVER!



BARBARA! PLEASE,
DON'T BE FRIGHTENED,
AND PLEASE FORGIVE ME
FOR HAVING SNEAKED IN,
EVEN THOUGH THE MAID
SAID YOU WOULDN'T
SEE ANYONE!



I'M KEN DOVER!
REMEMBER ME? WE'VE
NEVER MET BEFORE, BUT
I'VE WRITTEN YOU LETTERS...
AND SENT YOU FLOWERS!
UNTIL NOW I WAS AFRAID
TO MEET YOU, BUT NOW...
PLEASE... WILL YOU HAVE
DINNER WITH ME?



I HEARD VOICES...
WHO ARE YOU?
WHERE DID YOU
COME FROM?
MARIE! MARIE!

I...



THAT MAN! I
TOLD HIM MISS
STANTON WOULD SEE
NO ONE! HE MUST
HAVE BROKEN IN! I
DIDN'T LET HIM IN!
I SWEAR IT, MR
CONVEY!

PLEASE,
LET ME
EXPLAIN!



...AND I ONLY
WANTED TO ASK
HER OUT TO
DINNER! PLEASE
BARBARA, TELL
HIM!

OUT! OUT YOU
GO, OR I'LL CALL
THE POLICE! CAN'T
YOU SEE MISS
STANTON WANTS
NOTHING TO DO
WITH YOU?



I SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN BETTER! HER
MANAGER THREW ME
OUT, AND SHE STOOD
AND WATCHED! SHE
NEVER SAID A WORD!
YOUR THEORY WORKS
IN SPORTS, BUT NOT
IN ROMANCE!

HOW DO
YOU LIKE
THAT? I'VE
A GOOD MIND TO
TELL HER
WHAT I
THINK OF HER!
I THINK I
WILL!



I'D LIKE
TO SEE MISS
STANTON,
PLEASE!

MISS STANTON
WILL SEE NO ONE!
ABSOLUTELY NO
ONE! GET OUT!





Reducing Specialist Says:



"Thanks to the Spot Reducer, I lost four inches around the hips and three inches around the waistline. It's amazing." Mary Martin, Long Island City, N. Y.

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SAFELY-WITHOUT RISKING HEALTH

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HERE IS PROOF POSITIVE THAT THE SPOT REDUCER WORKS!

In recent tests made by outstanding licensed Medical Doctors on more than 100 people with the use of Spot Reducer everyone lost pounds and inches in a few short weeks, in HIPS, ABDOMEN, LEGS, ARMS, BUTTOCKS, etc. And the users say: "IT WAS FUN AND THEY ENJOYED IT." The Spot Reducer worked as well on men as it did on women. The Spot Reducer way controls weight, once down to normal it helps retain your new "SLIM FIGURE" as long as you like. Look and feel better, see bulges disappear within the first weeks. The beauty of this scientifically designed SPOT REDUCER is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. Thousands have lost weight this way in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in the privacy of your own room in your spare time.

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Here are the simple rules. In 25 words or less tell which stamp is your favorite and why you have chosen it as your favorite.

Originality and neatness will count. Send your entry on post card or letter to

STAMP PAGE EDITOR
Lev Gleason Comic Group
114 East 32nd Street
New York 16, N. Y.

The entries for this month's contest should be post marked by February 28, 1950.

STAMP PAGE by SIDNEY M. ELIAS

The Condor

ONE of the largest existing birds of flight, is the condor. Its average length is four feet from its beak to the end of its tail, while its wings have a spread of approximately nine feet from tip to tip. It is a member of the vulture family and enjoys carrion (decaying flesh of dead animals). One condor of average size has been observed to devour a calf, a sheep, and a dog during a single week. When in search of food they are known to attack sheep, goats, and deer. Shepherds hunt them down when they observed in their vicinity in order to protect their flock. The condor is easily caught for it is a stupid bird being more intent on a feast than on its own safety. Because of this fact, a barricade is made of sticks and stones and a dead animal is placed within it. When the condor sees the carcass it swoops down for a feast. Having devoured the animal and often to excess, the extra weight requires him to make an added run to get off the ground. His flight is thus similar to that of an airplane in which a dash down a runway must be made before it can take to the air. Being blocked by the barricade, the bird cannot easily fly and is captured or killed. As the condor is a heavy sleeper and sleeps most of the day, many are caught by climbing up a tree and noosing them before they awaken.

The condors are found in South America along the Andes Mountains from the equator to the Straits of Magellan. The favorite roosts are at heights of 10,000 to 16,000 feet and at levels where there is perpetual snow. They are powerful and graceful flyers for they sail in the air without flapping their wings.

Air mail stamps of nearly all the South American countries bordering on the Andes have shown pictures of the condor on their designs. Among these countries are Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru. A number of regular postage stamps of Bolivia have depicted the condor on its designs.

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MR. TOODLEY'S TIRE

"BOY, this is the roughest going I've ever seen," panted Jock, as he pedalled his bike up the icy, winding road. "We sure were nuts to take this trip!"

"Oh, it's not so bad," said Scarecrow, "we had a good day's skating out of it. There's no place left with good ice except Hasell's Lake, and the fact that it's so hard to get to meant that we had it all to ourselves. The only thing is I wish we had started back earlier. It's going to be way after dark before we get home. Oops!" Scarecrow's bike swerved. It took all his balance to keep from going over on the ice. "Geeminy, it's slick!"

The four Wise Guys panted and puffed their way up the long hill. The early winter evening was already beginning to fall, even though it wasn't much past four o'clock.

Suddenly Curly's bike skidded out of control! The wheel slipped sideways, and caught Pee Wee's bike as he pedalled by. The two boys and their bikes went down in a tangle of gears and tires.

"Yow! Ouch!" Pee Wee painfully disentangled himself. "Boy, that road is hard as glass. I should have a portable mattress fastened under my bike for times like . . . Hey, look! My tire! It's slashed right down the middle! That jagged ice ripped it in two. What the heck am I goin' to do now?"

Scarecrow and Jock pulled up. "The nearest garage is way back at Crawford Corners," said Jock. "Well, I guess there's nothing to do but go back and see if we can get it fixed. Why don't you and Curly stay here, Pee Wee, and Scarecrow and I will take the tire back. It shouldn't take us more than a half an hour."

A few minutes later the two boys were pedalling back down the road as fast as they dared, the damaged tire dangling from Jock's shoulder. As they rounded a blind corner, they suddenly discovered the road completely blocked by a large white horse pulling the gaudiest and most mis-shapen van they had ever laid their eyes on. The two skidded to a halt and stared. The first thing they noticed was a straw-haired, chubby little man seated in the front of the van, the reins hooked around his wrist, his hands and mouth busy enticing a rollicking song out of a battered harmonica. Then they saw, in large gilt letters on the side of the van, the words "TOODLEY'S TRAVELLING TRADING-POST," and underneath, in red and white, "Trinkets and Trappings."

"Whoa, Pygmalion!" The horse stopped.

"Ah, ha! Don Quixote and Sancho Panza out hunting for windmills to lasso!" His piping voice was as jolly as the tune he had been playing. "Allow me to introduce myself. Tobias T Toodley. The middle initial doesn't mean a thing. It just looks right!"

The two boys stared, open-mouthed. Then Jock managed to say, "This is Scarecrow and I'm Jock. We're not looking for windmills. We're looking for a new bicycle tire."

"Tire, schmire!" cackled Mr. Toodley. "I've got books and hooks and boxes and phloxes and grapes and capes and candy that's dandy and nuts! The kind you chew, the kind you screw, and the kind you have in your head!"

"Whew! Nuts is right!" whispered Scarecrow. Then he called up, "That's wonderful, Mr. Toodley, but all we need is a tire, a bicycle tire like this!"

"Time to retire, go sit on a spire!" he chanted. "Toodley's General Emporium-On-Wheels of Miscellaneous Merchandise and Foolish Frivolities has everything a person would want! Shoes with no soles for not getting where you don't want to go! Boxes that won't open for things you want people to be curious about. Salt shakers with no holes for seasoning food that's already quite salty enough!"

Jock, entranced with the piping salesman, pointed to an odd-shaped bottle dangling from the side of the van and said, "What's that?"

"That?" replied Mr. Toodley. "That? He-he-he-he! That's my newest invention. That's a bottle with a conscience for people who drink too much. When you start to unscrew the cap, there's a needle inside that scrapes a recorded thread on the bottle and says, 'Take it easy, breezy, you've got a long way to slide!' Only one of a hundred items, boys. One of a hundred!"

"But no bicycle tires?" said Jock.

"Who said, 'No tires'?" asked Mr. Toodley. "Now it just so happens . . ." He fastened the reins to the seat, jumped to the ground, and opened the side of the van. The boys peered inside and saw the most fantastic maze of miscellaneous articles they had ever seen. Mr. Toodley really had everything, or so it looked. "A bicycle tire. Hm-m-m. Yes, indeed, a bicycle tire. A foot-warmer wouldn't do, would it?"

Jock shook his head, "No, a foot-warmer wouldn't get us home."

"Or a small hamster, trained to turn somersaults?" asked Mr. Toodley.

"No. No hamsters," laughed Jock. "Just a bicycle tire."

"Yes, indeed." The piping voice came from the depths of the van. "Now just the other day I said to myself, 'Toodley, Tobias T., what you need in stock is a fine bicycle tire' and I immediately set out to correct this short . . . Yes, here it is, right where I put it myself. Pygmalion has chewed it up a bit—cutting a tooth, you know—but it's in perfect shape otherwise."

He scrambled down from the van, carrying with him the oddest tire Jock and Scarecrow had ever seen. "Geel!" exclaimed Scarecrow, "that doesn't look like a bike tire to me!"

"Of course, it's a bicycle tire," Mr. Toodley replied. "It's just a new variety! It's solid rubber, so it won't go flat! It's adjustable, so it will fit any wheel! It's peppermint-striped, so it looks delectable! What more could you ask?"

Jock and Scarecrow looked at each other, then at the tire. "Why not?" said Jock. "The garage at Crawford Corners will be closed by this time, so let's give this a try. After all, why couldn't there be a tire like that?" Completely hypnotized by the Mr. Toodley's sales talk, they took the tire. It really was pretty good.

"How much is it?" asked Jock.

"How much for such?" Mr. Toodley, "what price is nice? Money? Shmoney! I'll tell you what I'll do for you. I'll trade you a new tire for an old, a whole

tire for a bad!"

Still transfixed by the sing-song patter of the chubby little salesman, the boys handed him Pee Wee's torn tire and took the strange, peppermint-striped tire instead. Then, waving good-bye, they mounted their bikes and wheeled back to join Pee Wee and Curly.

Pee Wee gaped as they held the tire out to him. "What the dickens is *that*?" he asked. "Are you fellows nuts?"

"Why-a . . . Well, you see . . ." stammered Scarecrow. "Well, this Mr. Toodley . . . well, he had a van-and-and he seemed awfully smart-and he-he'd thought up this new kind of tire. I'm sure it'll work!" he added, with a worried smile and false enthusiasm.

"I think you two guys are off your bean! Where's my old tire?" demanded Pee Wee, crossly.

"He was very nice," said Scarecrow. "He took the ruined one for this. He didn't want any shmoney—I mean *money*, at all."

Pee Wee glared at Scarecrow. "You mean you gave him *my* good tire—for *this*? Why, you sawdust-brain, that tire of mine was a real one, and it could be repaired! What am I supposed to do with *this*?"

Curly took the tire and looked it over. "I guess there's nothing to do but try it. What if it *does* work?" The Wise Guys went to work. For a minute it really did look as though the tire might be all right. Mr. Toodley had claimed, till Pee Wee took a second look at it and hollered, "Do you know what this thing is? It's nothing but a garden hose stuffed with cotton and painted. It's worth about ten cents!" He looked threateningly at Jock and Scarecrow, who, realizing how they had been duped, were trying to think of some way to provide a new tire for Pee Wee. Darkness had fallen on the angry little group. Suddenly there was the gentle clop-clop of hooves, intertwined with the skipping notes of a harmonica.

"There he is!" shouted Jock. "I'll teach him to pull a trick like that!" He and Scarecrow raced down the road. TOODLEY'S TRAVELLING TRADING-POST rounded the bend and stopped in front of the boys. "Why, Mr. Quixote and Mr. Panza," piped the chubby little man, "how delightful to sight you again. Do you like my punch-proof, skid-safe, peppermint candy tire? How nice . . ."

"Nice, nothing!" exclaimed Jock. "We want Pee Wee's tire back—and right away, you crooked skint!"

"What!" Mr. Toodley cocked his head in surprise. "You want to arrange an exchange? To repeal the deal? Anything you say, my friends—at a price!"

"You mean you're going to make us buy back that tire?" demanded Jock. "You certainly won't get a penny . . ."

Reaching behind him, Mr. Toodley pulled Pee Wee's tire out from under the seat. "Here you are, kind sirs." Pee Wee reached up for the tire, then exclaimed, "You fixed it! It's all okay!"

"A speck of spit, a spot of cement, and the tire is good as new!" sang Mr. Toodley. Pee Wee knelt down and put the tire on. Mr. Toodley hopped down and pulled a tire pump out of his voluminous cape, and soon the bike was as good as new.

"Gee, that's wonderful! Thanks loads!" The Wise Guys turned to thank him.

"You've forgotten something, I believe," chirped Mr. Toodley. "The price! Remember the price!" The Wise Guys looked at each other in dismay, then Jock said, "We haven't got much money. How much do you want?"

"About two dollars ought to do it," he replied.

"Two dollars! We haven't got that much!" said Jock.

"Then, gentlemen, your bicycles as security," said Mr. Toodley, smiling as though the loss of their bikes would be the nicest surprise in the world for the boys. He reached down, picked up Pee Wee's bike and swung it into the van.

"Hey! You can't do that!" protested Pee Wee. But Mr. Toodley paid no attention, and reached for Jock's bike. Jock leaped toward him in anger and tried to pull it away from him. Mr. Toodley, caught off balance, fell, the bike underneath him.

"Now look what you've done!" Jock said furiously. "You've bent the wheel on *my* bike! Don't think you're going to get away with this, 'cause you're not!" Mr. Toodley picked himself up and looked at the boys in dismay and surprise. "You shouldn't be angry," he said. "It's a pity, but a price is a price!"

Pee Wee yanked at Jock's arm. "Come here a minute," he whispered. "I've got an idea. We're stuck here anyway, with the wheel on your bike bent now. Let's pretend to let him take our bikes if he'll give us a ride into town. Then when we get there, we can take our bikes back from him."

"Good idea, Pee Wee," replied Jock. He went over to Mr. Toodley. "Okay, so you've got our bikes. But we haven't got any way to get home now. The least you can do is give us a lift."

"Gladly, gladly! I like your bikes—and I like your company even more!" The boys hopped on the back of the wagon, and Mr. Toodley headed toward town. All the way, the Wise Guys plotted the best way to regain their bikes, now locked inside the van. As they neared the outskirts, Pee Wee hopped off the wagon after a whispered consultation with the others. He raced for the nearest store and phoned Daredevil. ". . . and he's got our bikes, D.D. The wagon's headed toward Graham Avenue—it's a great big gaudy van. You can't miss it!"

Twenty minutes later, a police car, siren wailing, pulled up in front of TOODLEY'S TRAVELLING TRADING-POST. Daredevil got out and was instantly greeted with the shouts of the three Wise Guys. "He's got our bikes, D.D.! He tried to rook us with a crooked tire deal, too!"

Daredevil turned toward Toodley. "What's the idea of taking those bikes from these . . . Why, Tobias Toodley, what're you doing in this part of the country? And what about this tire deal? That doesn't sound like you!"

"You've ruined my joke, Daredevil," said Toodley, sadly. "There's nothing I like better than a little joke, and I really had the boys scared."

"Joke!" exclaimed Pee Wee. "You mean you—*you* weren't *really* taking our bikes? You were just kidding?"

"Yep! And providing you with a short lesson on not letting yourselves be rooked with a garden-hose tire!" replied Toodley.

Daredevil could hardly speak for laughing when he had heard the complete story. "He really had you coming and going, boys. Toodley, your tricks are really going to get you in trouble one of these days. In the meantime, how about considering supper with us as a fair price for fixing the tire? And you can park your van at the Wise Guys' barn as long as you want."

"Excellent!" chirped Mr. Toodley. "And perhaps there will be just enough time to fix Jock's bike before supper—for a price, of course," he added, laughing. "That you let me add Toodley's Ring-Ding Bingle-Bell for Soothing Savage Traffic to all of your bikes!"

THE END

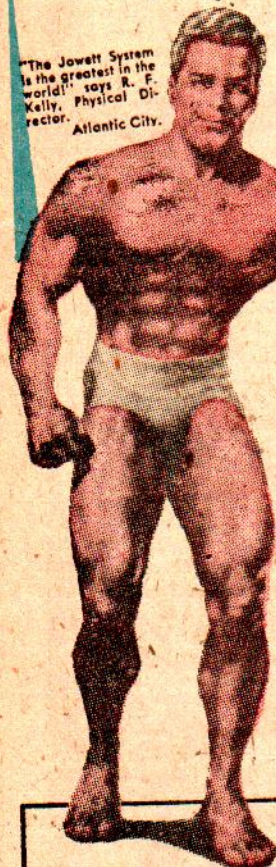
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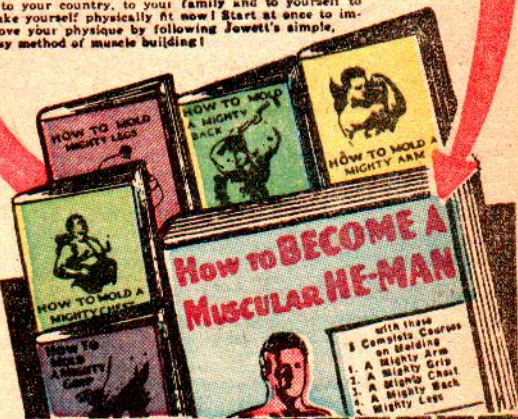
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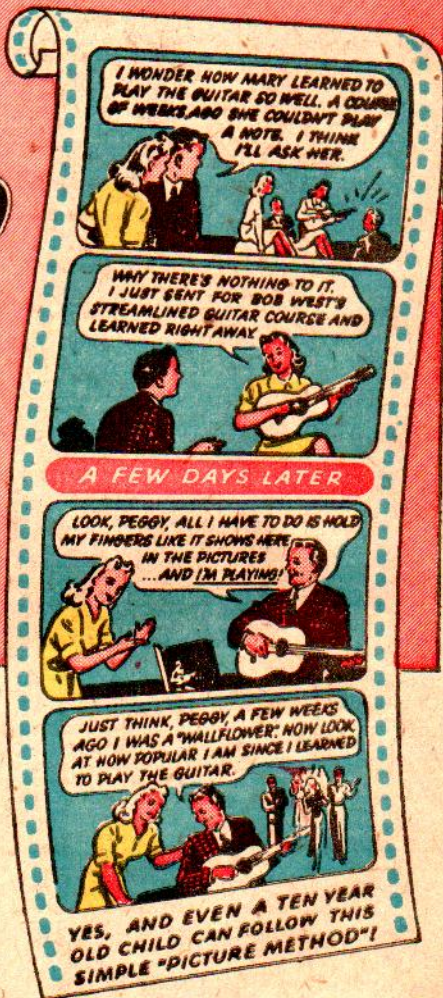
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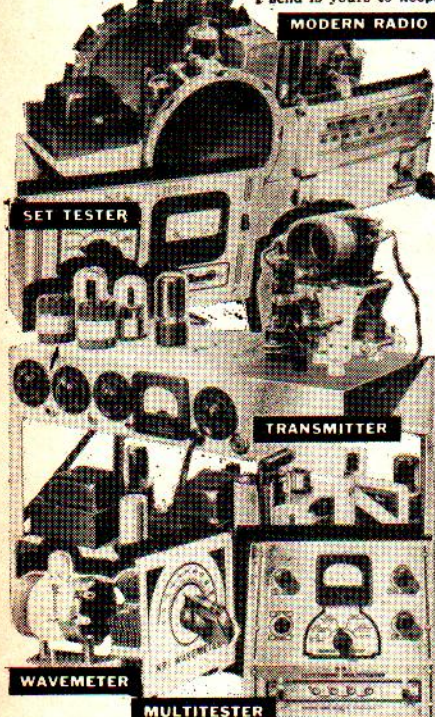
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